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75¢

Defeated NI mayoral bet says Aldan not a resident

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Defeated Northern Islands mayoral candidate Vicente Cruz Santos Jr. filed yesterday an election contest, alleging that mayor-elect Francisco Jerome K. Aldan is not a resident of the Northern Islands and that there were some illegal votes.

See MAYORAL on Page 4

Tinian mayor-elect wants Dela Cruz suit dismissed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Tinian mayor-elect Joey Patrick San Nicolas has asked the Superior Court to junk Tinian Mayor Ramon M. Dela Cruz's lawsuit that seeks to force a recount of the ballots for Tinian mayor.

San Nicolas also asked the See TINIAN on Page 4

Multi-agency effort eyed to fix Mt. Tapochau road

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

One of the most iconic sites on Saipan, Mt. Tapochau, is also one of the hardest to get to, with a rough road pockmarked with deep potholes and loose gravel that make for a treacherous approach when going up or down the moun-

tain's peak. The problem is not only with the main road going up Mt. Tapochau but also the secondary roads that lead to the homes of people who live in the area.

A temporary solution to this perennial problem is in sight, after some government agencies and Rep. Antonio

See ROAD on Page 4



Igisomar sworn in as Saipan senator

Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan) is sworn in by Senate President Ralph DLG. Torres (R-Saipan) while his wife, Catherine S. Tenorio, holds the Bible at the former's oath-taking ceremony yesterday at the Senate.

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan) finally completed the nine-member Senate after he was sworn in yesterday with family and friends in attendance at the Hon. Jesus P. Mafnas

Memorial Building

Igisomar, who was sworn in by Senate President Ralph DLG. Torres (R-Saipan), with his wife Catherine S. Tenorio holding the Bible, said it is a great honor to address everyone as a senator representing Saipan.

"I am humbled by all the people who

gave me their vote of confidence to serve them and to be their voice within this august body. Rest assured, I do not take this responsibility lightly. As the senator for the people of Saipan, I will have an open door policy because I must be accessible to my

See IGISOMAR on Page 4

INSIDE



LOCAL

Best Sunshine president and CEO Mark Brown is eager to hit the ground running.

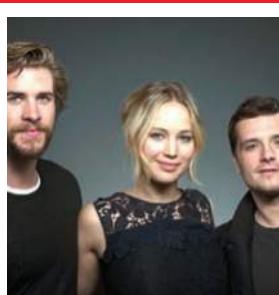
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LOCAL

Palau President Tommy Remengesau Jr. wins the UN's highest environmental award.

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LIFE & STYLE

Hanging out with the stars of "Hunger Games" feels like being with three siblings.

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Local

BSI president, CEO says he can't wait to get started

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Best Sunshine International Ltd. president and CEO Mark Anthony Brown arrived on island last Tuesday and is eager to hit the ground running on the company's \$7.1-billion integrated casino resort project.

However, he and BSI will just have to wait a little bit longer as the Commonwealth holds its runoff election for governor tomorrow and the release of the official results.

Not that BSI is betting on a particular candidate to win. Brown said they willing to work with

either Gov. Eloy S. Inos or his challenger in the runoff, former speaker Heinz S. Hofschneider.

"I don't think it matters to us. The wait is frustrating and I want to get started. Our whole company does. ... There are so many things hinging on the election finally [being] over. So we can get answers from whoever that person is. So we can just move forward because everyone is so focused on that. We've been patiently waiting," he said during a meet-and-greet with media yesterday at Hyatt Regency Saipan.

The 53-year-old veteran casino executive said that Best

Sunshine, a subsidiary of Hong Kong-based Pacific Imperial International Holdings Ltd., has already showed good faith by plunking down \$41 million in investment in the CNMI even before a land lease has been executed. He said this also the primary reason he joined the company on Nov. 10.

"The reason I joined is the \$41 million they put out so far and \$10 million is not for anyone else but for the people who live here. That's really it. Here's \$10 million I want to pay your utilities for the next three months. Why? Who else would do that? This company did that

to show good faith and we still don't have an answer. We still don't know where the land is coming. The \$31 million we had to put the \$10 million we didn't have to."

At the moment, Brown will be commuting between Saipan and Hong Kong, but he promised to make Saipan his home once construction of the casino resort starts.

"I started Nov. 10 and my entire week was listening to pitches from at least two architects a day in Hong Kong. I can't even say where, what, and how big it is. They're showing us four different designs of 100 rooms and



MARK RABAGO

Best Sunshine International Ltd. president and CEO Mark Anthony Brown joins Saipan reporters for an informal meet-and-greet at the Hyatt Regency Saipan yesterday.

2,000 rooms."

He said he has already made the rounds of the island, looking at what public and private lands are available.

"I like the Garapan area because this is where the people are and most hotels [are situated]. This area is very nice but you couldn't build a big property here."

Brown said land is the determining factor and, once the properties for BSI's development are identified, everything will fall into place.

On a more personal note, the former Venetian Macao and Sands Macao president said he immediately fell in love with Saipan and being personally here has only magnified his infatuation.

"It's just beautiful. I said it's God's country. Even before arriving and just seeing the pictures. It's more beautiful in person. Pictures usually give you an impression that 'this can't be real' and then you get here and it's actually more beautiful."

Brown said Saipan actually reminds him of his hometown because like Brigantine, New Jersey, which has Brigantine Avenue and Bayshore Avenue as its main thoroughfares, Saipan also has two main roads, Beach Road and Middle Road.

"It's an island I'm familiar with because I feel that I've been born and raised here... I feel like I'm 12 years old riding my bike down the street and I'm back home again. It feels very familiar to me."

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| Offer II | Presenting Score card with below 90 Get a Draft Beer with Snack Platter | | Presenting Score card with below 90 Get a Draft Beer with Snack Platter | | Presenting Score card with below 90 Get a Draft Beer with Snack Platter | | |



Gas prices down 15 cents a gallon on Saipan

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

Island motorists can once again thank decreases in crude oil prices nationally, giving Saipan a 15-cents decrease in gas prices.

Mobil Oil Mariana Islands and Shell Marianas slashed their gas prices late afternoon yesterday. Mobil gas stations started changing their prices at 3pm while Shell followed around 5pm.

Regular unleaded gasoline at Mobil gas stations and V-Power at Shell on Saipan is

now 15 cents lower, from \$4.759 to \$4.609.

Super unleaded gasoline at Mobil went from \$5.079 to \$4.929.

Shell's diesel went from \$5.119 to \$4.969.

Many motorists expressed happiness upon seeing the new reduction in gas prices.

Ann Margaret Ayuyu, 25, said it is kind of a big change for gas prices to be decreasing.

"I am still kind of skeptical about it; it might go up again. But it saves me a lot of gas [for now] and it is a big help for everyone," Ayuyu said.

A national survey reported by the Associated Press early November stated that gas prices have gone down 13 cents. The current average as of yesterday for U.S. gas prices on regular is \$2.863 and \$3.260 for premium.

There was no immediate report if gas prices on Tinian and Rota have also gone down. Gas prices on both islands are usually much higher compared to Saipan.

CNMI closely monitoring surprise Japan recession

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The Inos administration is closely monitoring economic reports out of Japan, after this key tourism market announced Monday that it has slipped into recession.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said that, while the CNMI is concerned with the situation in Japan, it is confident that its diversified portfolio—that counts South Korea, China, and Russia as its other key tourism markets—will soften the blow of a decline in tourists from Japan, which is always inevitable if a source country is in recession.

"The recent development of Japan falling into recession is a cause for concern for many countries. After all, Japan does have the third largest economy in the world. The Inos administration is closely monitoring the situation in Japan and the anticipated impact it may have on our tourism industry. While events like these are far beyond our control, this is why it is also important to have a diversified tourism industry with multiple source markets throughout

Asia. Nonetheless, it appears that the Japan government is already taking steps to remedy the situation so we are hopeful that things will turn around for the betterment of the country," said Demapan in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

The Marianas Visitors Authority assured its tourism partners and the Inos administration that tourists from Japan will remain steady, at least for the next three months.

"An analysis was made by our MVA Japan office and it was noted that indicators of a sudden decline in outbound travel from Japan are not there and that not much change is expected in the next three months," said MVA managing director Perry Tenorio in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

Quoting the report from MVA Japan, Tenorio said aside from a holding pattern on tourists going to the CNMI from October to December, the weak yen and fuel prices would have a negative impact on long-haul destinations.

The report also said some business types and companies are in better shape than others, but for the first time in several

years, an increasing number of companies are bringing back company trips for employees.

It added that it's likely that consumers will spend their increased bonuses on travel about six months after receiving the bonuses this December.

The MVA Japan report also said it is very likely that employees of many domestic companies will be able to take New Year holidays as long as nine days.

"This will encourage consumers to consider overseas travel, especially to short-haul destinations," it said.

The report also said Japan

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Airlines will operate two direct charter flights from Chubu Centrair International Airport on Dec. 27 and 30, respectively, to stimulate the year-end travel demands to the CNMI.

It said the aircraft will be a Boeing 737, which will increase the seat capacity to 288 seats.

In conclusion, MVA Japan said in the next few months or October–December 2014, the overall outbound travel should remain unchanged, at -21. But it is expected to increase in Micronesia (+4), Oceania (+4), and South Korea (+3).

According to the Associated Press, Japan's economy unexpectedly slipped back into

recession as housing and business investment dropped following a sales tax hike, hobbling its ability to help drive the global recovery.

The world's third-largest economy contracted at a 1.6 percent annual pace in the July–September quarter, the government said Monday, confounding expectations that it would rebound after a big drop the quarter before.

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HEINZ IS A BITTER MAN: Read the FACTS.

Learn the TRUTH about Heinz and Ray

- Heinz, with calculated no good motive, went against the late Governor Larry I. Deleon Guerrero, his own daughter's grandpa, and attempted to have the governor impeached for replacing the dilapidated CUC power plants that ended years of rotating power outages in the 1980s and '90s in Saipan. Heinz' ploy to hurt Governor Guerrero failed.
- Heinz and Ray Yumul sponsored a House Bill to remove the CNMI government-paid holidays.** These two (2) characters wanted to take away our paid holidays and quality time with our families. Our take-home pay is small enough. Now, they want to rob us in plain view using their position and station in life.
- Heinz devised a scheme, a tasteless plan,** against now retired Northern Marianas College (NMC) President Agnes Manglona McPhetres and attempted but failed to remove the president from the college for vindictive and self-serving reasons. Agnes is the co-founder of NMC and provided over 20 years of excellent leadership that helped grow and develop the first and only post-secondary learning institution in the Northern Mariana Islands. Thank you Agnes! Thank you NMC!
- The late CNMI Supreme Court Justice Ramon G. Villagomez, during his tenure as NMC Board of Regents Chairman, **admonished Heinz for being disrespectful, arrogant, out of character and inconsiderate** in the manner in which he used his legislative position to promote his personal vendetta and agenda at NMC.
- Heinz conducted an Oversight Hearing on CUC because of personal grudges (ill feelings) against his own daughter's grandpa, the late Governor Larry I. Deleon Guerrero. Strangely, Ramon Guerrero (Kumoi), Heinz' nemesis, now supporter, served as CUC executive director under Governor Larry Deleon Guerrero. Heinz PLUS Kumoi, believe this, has the makings of strange bedfellows. These two still have battle scars from their last fight. **Strange change?**
- Heinz is a **DEAD-BEAT DAD** for two daughters from two different women besides his wife. You can call that irresponsible. Hypocrisy for change?
- Heinz walked out of his supporters** after losing the 2009 General Election. We watched him leave! This guy is spineless-has zero sense of gratitude; deficient in human feelings. Heinz even refused to have his picture taken with his own daughter at his own daughter's wedding when asked by a family member. You call that insensitive. We call the SICKENING. **Change? Shame on you, Heinz.**
- Former Governor Juan N. Babauta, after losing in the 2009 General Election, asked Heinz just before (prior to) the 2009 Runoff Election to meet, thank and rally his supporters, but **Heinz said, "No, we don't need them."** Governor Babauta left Heinz behind and took his supporters elsewhere. Yes, Heinz lost the election.
- Last week, November 11, 2014, during Veterans Day ceremony, Heinz inserted (invited) himself WITHOUT proper protocol or permission, obviously for self-serving political reasons, into the group of veterans during the wreath-laying memorial service, an honor given only to veterans and public officials to lay the wreath. Heinz disrespected us veterans. His motive was unscrupulous and his conduct was unacceptable. WE VETERANS DO NOT APPRECIATE WHAT HEINZ DID. WE GATHERED TO HONOR OR FELLOW WARRIOR FOR COVERING OUR SIX AND BRINGING US HOME. Heinz is not a veteran and also not a public official.
- Ray Yumul easily got duped by Heinz and by his own miscalculated ambition.** YOU, Ray, should never listened to Heinz, AND most importantly, YOU, should not have listened to premature political advice. Ray's reason for running as Heinz' lieutenant governor is NOT WORTHY of mention. Take a look at Heinz' financial backer mastermind. He's still licking his wounds after 3 losses in 2001, 2005 and 2009, and BOTH, teacher and student, simply cannot learn the same lesson. Now, look at Ray's nonchalant attitude. The KID is a follower, not a leader. He is still choking on the silver spoon stuck in his mouth. **LIP SERVICE IS CHEAP CHANGE. LET US CHOOSE PROVEN SOLUTION-DRIVEN LEADERSHIP OVER LIP SERVICE.**

We intent to choose to be governed by Governor Eloy S. Inos, who demonstrates genuine care and fortitude, displays moral strength, values and principles, and exhibits excellent leadership qualities to guide us, feels our pain and suffering, finds solutions and strengthens our hope. This election is not about the rich getting richer. **THIS ELECTION IS ABOUT ALL OF US AND THE FUTURE OF OUR CHILDREN AND COMMONWEALTH. PLEASE VOTE FOR SOLUTION-DRIVEN LEADERSHIP. We respectfully ask for your support.**

Please VOTE for INOS-TORRES on November 21, Runoff Election. CHOOSE SOLUTION-DRIVEN LEADERSHIP. It is good for all of us.

WE RESPECTFULLY AND HUMBLY ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT. PLEASE VOTE FOR INOS-TORRES, NO. 1 ON THE BALLOT.

Dr. Ramsey files another lawsuit vs CHCC

Dr. Gary Ramsey, a former medical staff at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., has filed another lawsuit against CHCC for allegedly refusing to pay him \$14,055 in physician services.

Ramsey, through counsel Samuel Mok, is suing CHCC for breach of contract, unjust enrichment, and violation of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing.

Ramsey asked the Superior

DPW secretary wants rebar of political signs also removed

Department of Public Works Secretary Martin Sablan is reminding all political parties and candidates of the Nov. 4 elections not to forget to also remove the rebars when they take out their political signs along the roads.

"There already is an announcement that gave them so many days to remove the signs

Court to hold CHCC liable to pay him \$14,055 in damages, plus court costs, and attorney's fees.

Mok stated in the complaint that Ramsey worked for CHCC from 2010 to 2012, during which time he also delivered services at both the Tinian and Rota health centers on an emergency basis at their requests in order to fill-in for absent physicians and/or remedy a general physician shortage.

but I think it's important that the political parties also to please remove the rebar that are used to secure the signs because when we mow the lawn it damages our equipment," Sablan said.

He said it's just a friendly reminder for candidates of the last general election. "I know they'll do it. We just need to

Mok said in addition, in March 2012 then-CHCC chief executive officer Juan N. Babauta asked Ramsey to devise a personnel policy for the hospital.

The lawyer said Ramsey spent 60 hours of his time completing the special project by drafting and delivering a new personnel policy to Babauta as requested.

However, Mok said, the doctor was never paid for his work despite the fact he only charged

a modest \$1,500 for his efforts.

To date, Mok said, the total amount owed Ramsey for all the work he performed for the CHCC, Tinian and Rota health centers, including the unreimbursed travel expenses he personally incurred for travel to Tinian, is \$14,055.

"To date, CHCC has refused to adjust any of the amounts due and owing to plaintiff Dr. Ramsey despite due demand," the lawyer said.

Last September, Ramsey also filed a lawsuit in federal court over alleged wrongful termination of his medical privilege at CHCC.

In that case, Ramsey is suing CHCC chief executive officer Esther Muna, CHCC OB/Gynecology department chair Dr. Jeanolivia Grant, CHCC Medical Affairs director Dr. Sherleen Osman, former Department of Public Health Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez, CHCC, the CNMI government, and 10 unnamed individuals.

Ramsey asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to find

the defendants liable to pay him damages, attorney's fees, and court costs.

Ramsey is a physician and surgeon specializing in obstetrics, gynecology, and women's health. He was first licensed by the Medical Board of California in 1991.

Ramsey first came to work on Saipan in April of 1999. He was first licensed by the CNMI Healthcare Professions Licensing Board in 1999.

He worked at the Commonwealth Health Center for eight years, from 1999 to July of 2007. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

IGISOMAR

From Page 1

constituents. I will listen to your problems and as your voice in the Senate, help you find the solutions for the problems afflicting you today and to lay the foundation so that all our future generation will not suffer the same plight," he read from prepared speech after he took his oath.

Igisomar, who won in the special elections for senator to continue the unfinished term of former Senate floor leader Ray Yumul, said the fact that he only has a little over half of the usual term for senator gives him additional motivation.

"I am not a stranger to hard work and because I only have two years, I am motivated to invite key stakeholders from the government and the pri-

vate sector in order to identify problematic areas and remove any hindrance so that we can help our private sector flourish, which will translate to revenue generation for our government. This will require hard work, dedication, and perseverance and I am confident that if we establish a sound working relationship based on trust, mutual respect, and selflessness, we can accomplish great things," said the former Commerce secretary.

Senate members took turns welcoming Igisomar to the upper chamber, with Senate floor leader Pete Reyes (Ind-Saipan) saying Igisomar can always ring him up for advice. Reyes is retiring soon.

Sen. Victor Hocog (R-Rota) said he welcomes Igisomar not only to the 18th Senate but the incoming 19th Senate as well.

Sens. Jovita Taimanao (R-Saipan) and Joaquin Borja (Ind-

Tinian) both lamented that they will only have a short time to work with Igisomar in the 18th Senate. Both Taimanao and Borja lost their elections bids.

Sen. Francisco Q. Cruz (R-Tinian) gave a comedic twist to the proceedings when he expressed hope that Igisomar sticks around as his seatmate because the past two—Yumul and Torres—resigned and ascended to the Senate presidency, respectively. This elicited laughter from the audience.

Sen. Francisco Borja (Ind-Tinian) said he is happy that Saipan is finally well represented in the Senate with Igisomar's swearing in yesterday.

Torres, meanwhile, congratulated Igisomar, his wife, and his entire family for winning the special elections for senator last Nov. 4. He said although he is a senator from Saipan, he also represents the entire CNMI.

Sen. Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) was absent.

Igisomar was appreciative of the kind words from his colleagues.

"I thank my colleagues for welcoming me with open arms and as the freshman senator from Saipan, I look forward to learning from each of them and collaborating with them to make the rest of the 18th and the 19th Senate an active and productive body."

Igisomar won via landslide in a three-man race in the special elections for senator after garnering 5,903 votes.

Yumul resigned after opting to run as independent gubernatorial bet Heinz Hofshneider's lieutenant governor in the Nov. 4 elections.

Hofshneider and Yumul finished second and will figure in a runoff between Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Torres tomorrow, Nov. 21.

Sablan said the following day—Friday—he joined Tenorio, Martin Sablan, Tudela, Aquino, and DPW engineers to look at the roads on Mt. Tapochau.

Tony Sablan said there are some right of way land issues that need to be resolved and he would try to speak with legislators to come up and appropriate funds.

The last time the road was fixed was back on April before the annual Catholic tradition of Good Friday, when devotees walk to the top of the mountain. At the time, the potholes were covered with asphalt by the Saipan Mayor's Office.

MVA funding

In a separate interview yesterday, Tenorio said he will talk with the MVA board and seek to use a portion of the destination enhancement funds for the most critical and problematic area of the road.

Tenorio said there is one major problematic area that residents pointed out when their

group visited Mt. Tapochau last Friday. The area is near the housing area in Mt. Tapochau that is close to a steep incline heading to the top of the mountain.

"We received DPW's proposed cost to the one area in Mt. Tapochau and we will discuss this with the board," Tenorio said.

Mayor's support

Tudela said the last time the Saipan Mayor's Office did any work on the road going up Mt. Tapochau was during Good Friday.

Aquino said they don't want to fix some areas of the road with asphalt this time because it is just a temporary or band-aid fix.

"Usually the asphalt is washed away during the rain so we asked for a different solution. DPW then pointed out a flowable fill," Aquino said.

Flowable fill is a self-compacting low strength material with a flowable consistency that is used as a backfill material. It is not concrete nor is used to

replace concrete. It also won't require any excavation.

Tudela said they will provide manpower if needed.

"We can't provide equipment because we won't have any until late December or mid-January, so we will try and provide the manpower for this project if it is funded for," she said.

DPW estimate

In a separate interview with Martin Sablan, he said it would cost less than \$100,000 to fix the more problematic areas of the road.

He said they will use the flowable fill or concrete-treated base course for the potholes.

"MVA is willing to do a co-share and our engineers came up with two cost estimates," Martin Sablan said.

MVA has proposed to provide between \$30,000 to \$40,000 for the area near the housing.

Martin Sablan said that DPW cannot do the work itself so they will look at other contractors to actually do it and see what to do to cut the cost for the project.

MAYORAL

From Page 1

Santos is suing Aldan and the Commonwealth Election Commission in Superior Court.

Santos, through counsel Janet H. King, asked the court to declare Aldan not a resident or domiciliary of the Northern Islands and not eligible to be a candidate in the Nov. 4 election for the Northern Islands mayor.

Santos requested the court to declare him the elected Northern Islands mayor for garnering the largest number of legal votes.

Alternatively, Santos wants the court to issue an order setting aside the election results and ordering the election commission to hold a new mayoral election for the Northern Islands.

Santos also demanded a court judgment holding Aldan and CEC jointly liable to pay him for his fees, costs, and expenses in his election contest.

Aldan, of the NMI Republican Party, won over indepen-

dent candidate Santos with a margin of 33 votes, 94-61, according to CEC's official election results.

King stated in the complaint that CEC allowed Aldan to run as a candidate for Northern Islands mayor in the Nov. 4 election despite his being not a resident or domiciliary of the Northern Islands.

King said that only individuals registered to vote in Precinct 4D (Northern Islands) for the Nov. 4 election could vote for the Northern Islands mayor.

The lawyer also alleged that on Nov. 4, CEC allowed 40 individuals to vote who were not eligible to vote for Northern Islands mayor.

King said these individuals were not residents of the Northern Islands on Nov. 4 or ever, yet they voted for Aldan. King said without these illegal votes, Santos would have prevailed over Aldan.

Aldan is program manager for the Northern Islands Mayor's Office. He has been serving as acting mayor because of the current mayor's health condition.



Medical Referral Office is not 'politicized'—Sablan

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

Medical Referral Services director Ronald D. Sablan took

exception yesterday to a political advertisement that implies that his office is "politicized" merely because it is under the Office of the Governor.

NMC looks to 'Guam model' to finance facility upgrades

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College hopes to have a "campus renaissance" soon, with a plan to initiate by the end of the next calendar year a facility financing scheme based on the "Guam model."

Regent William Torres, who chairs the fiscal committee on facilities, said that U.S. Department of Agriculture area director Joseph Diego assured him in a meeting last week that NMC would receive "due priority and commitment" for facility financing from USDA.

Torres said he also met with the University of Guam Board of Regents and the planning and facility manager of the Guam Community College.

Both the UOG and GCC have availed of the Community Facilities Direct and Guaranteed Loan program under the USDA's Rural Development program. UOG has borrowed \$13.5 million over 40 years at 4.5 percent interest, and GCC has borrowed \$3.5 million.

UOG services this debt through a combination of commitment from the Guam Legislature for an annual appropriation of \$500,000 per year for the life of the loan, \$200,000 from the UOG Endowment Foundation, and \$50,000 from internal revenue sources.

RESIDENTIAL, GOVERNMENT & BUSINESS DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its RESIDENTIAL, GOVERNMENT & BUSINESS customers that current billing of accounts are due on or before **Thursday, November 20**. Payments not received by close of business on **November 20** will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00PM on that day.

To prevent temporary suspension, customers are hereby advised to kindly pay their bills on or before **Thursday, November 20**. Disputed billings must be brought to IT&E's attention in person or in writing by **Thursday, November 20**.

Customers must pay any current amount due, to avoid disconnection.

If you have questions regarding billing or services please call Customer Service at 682-4ITE (4483) or visit our Customer Service or Business Sales Center – Middle Road, Chalan Laolao.

To avoid disconnection you may pay your IT&E bill at any location below:
SHELL Service Stations – up to 4:00pm
Chalan Laolau – up to 5:00pm
Tinian/Rota Office – up to 4:30pm
TSL Plaza – up to 6:00pm
Online payment – up to 9:00pm
PAY BY PHONE - 682-4ITE (4483)



"The assumption that the Medical Referral Services needs to be depoliticized is not true. To me, that is stating something that is totally opposite of the way it is," Sablan said.

He was referring to an ad placed by the Hofschneider-Yumul campaign in both newspapers last Friday, titled "Your Health Matters." In one of its statements, the HY campaign promised to "depoliticize Medical Referral."

Sablan said he does not want to drag into the politics of this Friday's gubernatorial runoff election but since the political ad brought up the issue, he wants to clarify why MRS is under the Governor's Office.

"Medical Referral patients are unforeseen and you cannot

estimate and you cannot project [how many patients you're going to have in a year], so the only way for the government to really be able to accommodate this is that the governor has the expenditure authority to reprogram funds to be able to fund the requirements of this office," he said.

Sablan pointed out that decisions made by MRS are not made by the governor or anyone in the Legislature. MRS has its own medical referral committee composed of a team of six doctors and Sablan himself making the decisions whether patients are eligible or not for medical referral.

"Our rules and regulations state that if we ran out of appropriated funds, then MRS

operation should shut down. Based on our budget that gets appropriated for MRS in the last five years, it is actually less than 30 percent of what our expenditures really are," he said.

How then does MRS get additional funding if its expenditures surpass the budget allocated for it?

"This is the reason why it was transferred to the Governor's Office because the governor has that expenditure authority to take surplus funds from other departments to be able to pay for this. Otherwise, patients here would be denied at other hospitals off-island," Sablan said.

He pointed out that MRS has rebuilt its credibility in the last few years among off-island hos-

pitals. Without that credibility, patients wouldn't be accepted during off-island referrals, he said.

Sablan also noted that MRS has decreased its expenditures since he took over as its head.

Before he came into office, MRS' expenditure was over \$11 million a year. In comparison, expenditures in the past three fiscal years have ranged between \$5 million to \$6 million.

"When they say that MRS needs to be depoliticized, I don't understand why? If anybody knows how we operate, nobody will need to say that. We transferred because the governor felt that he can reprogram funds—actual expenditure funds—to pay for this program," Sablan said.

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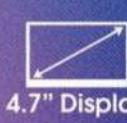
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UNDER MVA'S CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

TDI stresses equal opportunities for small tour operators

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Top Development Inc. welcomes the new tour guide/operator certification program that's now in the works by the Marianas Visitors Authority but would like policies and regulations that are fair to everyone, whether operators are "big or small," said executive vice president and chief operating officer Alfred Ho yesterday.

Ho agrees with the need for regulations but stressed that they should not favor bigger companies who may "monopolize" the industry. He said even smaller companies help the economy and don't take away from it as long as they are following the law and pay taxes.

"Just because you have a lot of money and monopolize the business does not mean you should have first priority," he added.

In a meeting last month, MVA board members cited how smaller "mom-and-pop" tour operators were popping up all over the islands. Stressing "quality over quantity," board member Jerry Tan said 10 companies with capital, insurance, and good hiring practices would be better than 50 "mom-and-pop" companies where 10 are good and 40 are bad.

"We should put a lot of teeth [in the regulations]," Tan suggested

then. "It may sound kind of tough but keep in mind we want quality people behind this industry."

Ho, for his part, believes that the nature of supply and demand is "tricky." The islands should not limit the number of tour operators, guides, or agents, he said.

For example, so far the island has 10 charter flights from China—four from Shanghai, four from Beijing, and two from Guangzhou, he said. With hotels and a casino in development this number may have to change.

"We're talking about multi-billion of dollars...Later on there may be 20, 30, or 40 [companies]," he said. "When the market is open is not the time to invite somebody to do business. It would be too late," he said.

Ho hopes that regulations would not limit operators based on their draw of tourists. He said tourists chartered to Saipan by bigger companies reserve the right to seek these "mom-and-pop" companies if they so choose, even if another more established company is promoted beforehand.

"When a customer comes to Saipan, they have the right not to choose the service offered by the travel agent," he said. He believes smaller tour operators would keep prices fair.

"When we're doing business, we involve a lot of overhead, but smaller business don't.

Mom-and-pop stores save a lot of money. This causes prices to drop," he said.

Ho said MVA has yet to reach out to TDI to discuss these policies.

Clarity

Masaru Sunaga, Pacific Micronesia Tours assistant general manager, pointed out that the new tour operator/guide program is now law and it "has to be done" to improve the industry.

"We must do this to ensure higher-quality service for our

islands tourists," he said.

He confirmed that as president of the Japan Saipan Travel Association, he has met with MVA to discuss the tour guide manual that's now in the works.

He said one problem for tour guides is that there is "no official information" on, say, the height of Mt. Tapochao. Some tour guides have been providing varying heights to tourists, he said.

"Every guide must guide with the same information," he said.

On TDI's part, Ho would like

to know more about the certificate program's language requirements. Public Law 18-58 would ensure minimum proficiency in the English language and successful training on the CNMI's history, culture, and scenic attractions under the certificate program.

Ho is concerned with how operators would be educated. For example, whether they would be educated in their "hometown Chinese" or in English.

He believes it would be "very

difficult to have Chinese tour guides" become fluent in English. He suggests that tour guides be educated in Chinese, mainly because "no matter how good his English is," he said, a tour guide for Chinese tourists would speak to these tourists in Chinese.

BECQ plans govt recycling program

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality has set its eyes on early next year to begin its first-ever CNMI government recycling program, according to BECQ special assistant Jenny Salas.

She said government offices would be asked to recycle their waste and trash. This, she said, would have the CNMI government "leading by example" and promoting recycling in the community.

Salas will be spearheading the program and is in charge of its promotional activities.

Originally planned for this November, the bureau saw it best to move it to next year, as the election season has been ongoing, she said.

Right now, they are working on finding recycling bins to supply each and every government office, according Salas.

BECQ has been instrumental with the environmental educational and outreach on island. The recycling program will be on top of their Coral Reef Initiative, community events like First Friday Films, and the various beach cleanups they organize throughout the year. (Dennis B. Chan)

BOE chair concerned with shift in Congress

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CNMI State of Education chair Herman Guerrero is a mite concerned over the shift in the U.S. Congress into the hands of Republicans, specifically in regards to the reauthorization of programs and grants under the Elementary Secondary Education Act, which funds many essential programs in the Public School System.

The CNMI will get over \$30 million in federal educational funds this fiscal year. A large portion of this, according to Guerrero, is made up of consolidated grants under ESEA.

"We certainly would like to see the reauthorization [of ESEA] entertained by Con-

gress," he said.

He hopes Congress will also include the CNMI in the Race To the Top program, which he said they have been excluded from in the past.

ESEA was renamed the No Child Left Behind Act in its reauthorization in 2001. It has been reauthorized every five years since it was signed into law in 1965.

"NCLB is six years overdue for an update," said U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan in a statement in August. He said that "some in Congress...would lock in major cuts to education funding" at a time when investment in education is "the only way" to remain globally competitive.

He supported a Democrat version of the bill passed in

committee last June.

Guerrero would like to talk to U.S. Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan on the matter. He said he would like to know "what to expect" from this new Congress and from the delegate himself.

Sablan, a Democrat-caucusing independent, earlier said he is "not troubled by the change in party leadership [in Congress]."

"With the Republicans in complete control of Congress, the opportunities to advance any of my agenda items will shift. But I have built up a pretty good set of relationships with Republicans over the last six years. I wouldn't have been able to get seven Republican chairmen to visit our islands this August if I didn't have some friends on that side of the aisle," he had said.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-15-002

POWER SUPPLY RESOURCES

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced entities to supply reliable, affordable energy from commercially proven electric generation resources for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The solicitation seeks responses from suitably qualified entities from which CUC intends to select one, or more, proponent(s) to negotiate long-term power supply contracts that best fit CUC's power supply requirements. CUC's requirements for new power supply resources will be determined as part of its Integrated Resource Plan, which is currently underway. More information regarding the Integrated Resource Plan can be found at the CUC's website at <http://www.cucgov.org/integrated-resource-plan>.

The RFP documents may be downloaded from the CUC website at <http://www.cucgov.org/power-supply-rfp/>. It is each proponent's responsibility to ensure they have received all RFP documents posted to this website. An updated checklist will be provided in early January, titled "RFP Document Receipt Checklist and Affirmation" prior to the submittal deadline. In order to reduce the cost to CUC of this procurement and in the interest of sustainable business practices, CUC will not be providing printed RFP materials; all RFP materials will be posted and distributed electronically.

Prospective proponents for this RFP must register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division, by filling out and submitting a Proponent Registration Form by 10:00 am December 15, 2014 in order to be considered. The Proponent Registration Form is posted to the website at <http://www.cucgov.org/power-supply-rfp/> and can be delivered in printed format or electronically via email to the CUC Procurement Contact for Power Supply RFP:

Manny B. Sablan, Jr.
Purchasing Officer
Address: Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Third Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Bldg.
P.O. Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP, 96950
Office Phone: (670) 236-4303
Email: manny.sablan@cucgov.org

The deadline for proposal submittals is currently scheduled for January 20, 2015, although this date may be subject to change. Changes to the proposal schedule will be posted as addenda to the Request for Proposal documents.

One printed, hardcopy original and five copies of all proposal material and supporting documents (including the Technical Proposal requirements, the Cost Proposal requirements, and all supplementary data requested as part of Appendix A, Appendix B, and Appendix C) must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC RFP 15-002, Power Supply Resources" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No.3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on January 20, 2015. One electronic copy of the Technical Proposal and related documents, and one electronic copy of the Cost Proposal and related documents, in Adobe pdf format on a DVD, also must be delivered with the other printed, hardcopy proposal materials.

Proponents are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proponents due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of proponents' preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. Questions or requests for clarification will be considered only from registered proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than December 17, 2104 to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email addressed to manny.sablan@cucgov.org. CUC will host a Pre-Proposal Conference and Webinar on December 4, 2014 to discuss the Request for Proposals and answer questions. Information regarding the Pre-Proposal Conference and Webinar will be provided to registered proponents.

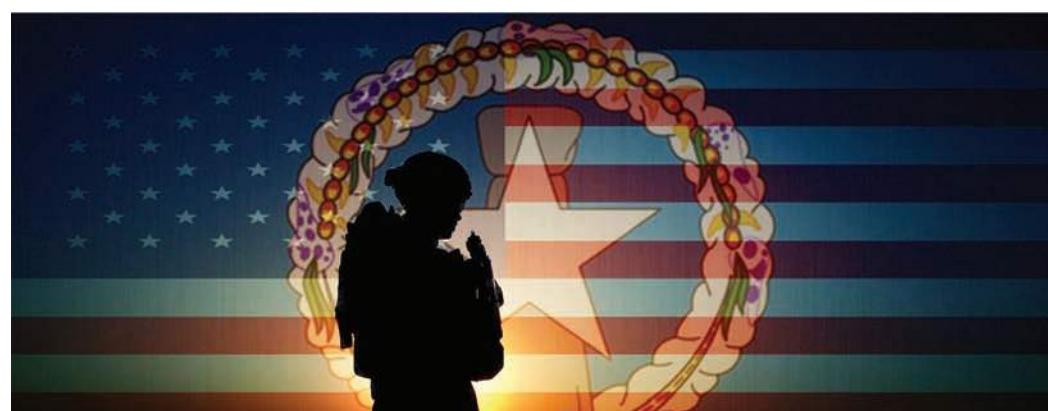
Proponents shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proponents.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: <https://marianaslabor.net/>. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Executive Director



VETERANS APPRECIATION MONTH

To show our appreciation and gratitude, the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority (COTA), is offering a discounted price of \$3.00 per segment to ALL VETERANS, ACTIVE, and RESERVISTS as well as their families for the whole month of November!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE, SACRIFICE, and PATRIOTISM!

This advertisement is paid for under the Veteran's Transportation Community Living Initiative (VTCLI) grant.

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HR says CUC voucher not a ‘bribe’

POLITICAL QUIZ

We thank Herman R. Guerrero, Chairman of the Civil Service Commission, who brought up the question of whether Best Sunshine's utility vouchers were "bribes to voters".

We think that is an excellent question for all of us to think about.

Certainly, the timing a day before election is questionable, And Governor Inos does control CUC through his Emergency Declaration.

Did IT compromise our government and our election by directing the CUC to pay-out B.S. 'vouchers' one day before our election?

Are the CUC-BS 'vouchers', 'scrips', a gift, a thing of value, consideration, or an incentive to vote?

TITLE 1: GOVERNMENT

DIVISION 8: PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT

§ 8551. Offering, Receiving and Soliciting Gifts or Favors.
 (a) No person shall give to any public official or public employee, or to the spouse or minor child of either of them, and none of them shall solicit or accept, any anonymous gift.
 (b) No person shall give or offer to give to any public official, judicial officer, employee, or Commonwealth contractor, or to the spouse or minor child of any of them, and none of them shall accept, anything of value, including, but not limited to, a gift, favor or promise of future employment, based upon any explicit or implicit mutual understanding that the votes, official actions, decisions or judgments of any official, employee, or Commonwealth contractor concerning the business of the Commonwealth would be influenced thereby. It shall be presumed that a nonmonetary gift having a value of less than \$50 does not involve such an understanding.
 (c) No person who has an economic interest in a specific Commonwealth business service or regulatory transaction shall give, directly or indirectly, to any Commonwealth judicial officer or public employee whose decision or action may substantially affect such transaction, or to the spouse or minor child of such official or employee, and none of them shall accept, any gift of:
 (1) Cash or its equivalent, regardless of value

TITLE 1: GOVERNMENT

DIVISION 6: ELECTIONS

§ 6402. Payment of Value: To Vote or Aid in Securing Nomination for Another. A person shall not, directly, by himself or through any other person, give or receive any money or other valuable thing, before, during or after election because he or any other person:
 (a) Voted to secure the election or endorsement of any other person as the nominee or candidate of any convention, organized assemblage of electors or voters, or other body representing or claiming to represent a political party or principal or any clubs, society or association.
 (b) Aided in securing the selection or endorsement of any other person as a nominee or candidate as provided in subsection (a).
 Source: PL 12-18, § 2 (6402).

TITLE 1: GOVERNMENT

DIVISION 6: ELECTIONS

§ 6403. Payment of Value: To Vote, Not Vote or Reward for Same. A person shall not lend or contribute any money or other valuable consideration to or for any voter, or to or for any other person, to:
 (a) Induce a voter to:
 (1) Vote or refrain from voting at any election;
 (2) Vote or refrain from voting at any election for or against any particular person or issue;
 (3) Come to the polls at an election;
 (4) Remain away from the polls at an election.
 (b) Reward a voter for having:
 (1) Voted;
 (2) Refrained from voting;
 (3) Voted for or against any particular person or issue;
 (4) Refrained from voting for or against any particular person or issue;
 (5) Come to the polls at an election;
 (6) Remained away from the polls at an election.

Source: PL 12-18, § 2 (6403).

DIVISION 6: ELECTIONS

§ 6401. Receipt of Value: To Vote or Not Vote.

A person shall not, directly, by himself or through any other person, receive, agree or contract for, before or during an election, any money, gift, loan or other valuable consideration, office, place or employment for himself or any other person, for either:
 (a) Voting or agreeing not to vote;
 (b) Coming or agreeing to come to the polls;
 (c) Refraining or agreeing to refrain from voting;
 (d) Voting or agreeing to vote for or against any particular person or issue;
 (e) Refraining or agreeing to refrain from voting for or against any particular person or issue;
 (f) Inducing any other person to:
 (1) Vote or refrain from voting;
 (2) Vote or refrain from voting for or against any particular person or issue;
 (3) Come to or remain away from the polls.

Source: PL 12-18, § 2 (6401).

TITLE 1: GOVERNMENT

DIVISION 6: ELECTIONS

§ 6404. Receipt of Value: To Procure Election or Vote. A person shall not, directly or indirectly, by himself or through any other person procure, engage, promise or endeavor to procure, in consequence of any gift, loan, offer, promise, procurement or agreement, the election of any person, or the vote of any voter at an election.
 Source: PL 12-18, § 2 (6404).

Interpretation:

In our CNMI Elections, it is against Commonwealth law, it is illegal, for a person to lend you money or give you money or anything of value including a job for you or your family or personal assistance in order to convince you or make you vote for someone in an election.

A voter may not be scared or threatened or caused to vote or not to vote for any person or for any issue. This is against the law.

Is this influence buying? You think about it and decide.

USP4GG Marianas chapter donates to Haiyan victim

In commemoration of the first anniversary of Typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda, Dr. Celia B. Lamkin, chairperson of US Pinoys for Good Governance Marianas chapter, turned over a check donation of \$300 to Rev. Father Rey Rosal, whose family members are victims of the killer typhoon. The donation was made last Saturday at the San Jose Church on Saipan.

"On behalf of the US Pinoys for Good Governance Marianas chapter members, volunteers and supporters, I am honored to present our humble donation to your family members who were affected by the Typhoon Yolanda last year and who are still recovering from this killer typhoon," Lamkin told Rosal.

In his response, Rosal, the parish priest of San Jose Church, said: "On behalf of my family, I would like to thank the US Pinoys for Good Governance Marianas chapter and all who in one way or another have helped the victims and survivors of Typhoon Yolanda through their monetary and in kind donations. As the Gospel tells us, 'Whatever you do to the least of my brothers, you do it unto me, says the



Lord Jesus. Continue to share, that others may live.' God bless you all."

Lamkin said that their organization has identified "some more kababayans [compatriots] on Saipan who were devastated by Typhoon Yolanda who are still in need of help during this period of recovery. And we will have future projects to be able to assist them in our own little ways. I would like to thank all the USP4GG Marianas chapter members, volunteers and supporters who made this noble act possible."

US Pinoys for Good Governance has a mission to provide better lives for Filipinos everywhere and a better Philippines. It is led by its national chairperson, Loida Nicolas Lewis, president Rodel Rodis, and spokesman Ted Laguanan. Its headquarters is based in New York City. (PR)

RON LAMKIN
Dr. Celia Lamkin, US Pinoys for Good Governance Marianas Chapter chairperson, is joined by members and volunteers to turn over a check donation to Rev. Father Rey Rosal at the San Jose Parish church last Saturday. Not in photo: USP4GG Marianas chapter member Jess Yumul and Ron Lamkin.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Casting call for FOA production

There will be a meeting on Monday Nov 24 between 6pm and 8pm at the MHS Dolphin Theater for those who would like to take part in the Jan. 16, 17, and 18 production of the FOA's tribute to vaudeville and music hall called I'm Not Rappaport. They still have room for additional performers and vocalists. Come and try out. (FOA)

Soroptimist luncheon meeting today

Soroptimist International of Northern Mariana Islands will have a luncheon at the Pacific Islands Club annex today, Nov. 20, at 11:30am to hear Jill Derickson from The Compassionate Friends of Saipan. Cost is \$20 and includes lunch and the company of good friends. (PR)

MHS seniors to take part on Start Smart seminar

Marianas High School seniors will be out on Monday, Nov. 24, 2014 for the annual Senior Start Smart seminar at Saipan World Resort. Students' permis-

sion slips will be placed in your box and will also be available in the counseling office. The permission slip is a passive consent and does not need to be turned in if they plan to attend. If the student does not want to attend the event then they can submit the letter to the counselor on Monday morning. (PR)

Survivors, caregivers support meeting today

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the next Commonwealth Cancer Association monthly support meeting today, Nov. 20, 2014, starting at 5:30pm at Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room. To RSVP or for more information, call the CCA at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com or cca@ccamarianas.org. (CCA)

Nov. 21 is designated a legal holiday

Gov. Eloy S. Inos has designated Nov. 21, 2014, as a legal holiday. The Commonwealth Election Commission has set a gubernatorial runoff election

on that date. "Pursuant to 1 CMC Section 6508, if an election is held on a day other than a Saturday or Sunday, the Election Day shall be a legal holiday within the Commonwealth or in the senatorial or election district. Therefore, please be advised that Friday, Nov. 21, 2014 is hereby designated as a legal holiday in the CNMI," he said. (*Saipan Tribune*)

Air Force training on Farallon de Medinilla

The Air Force will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla today, Nov. 20, from 10am to 4pm. The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators, are advised to stay clear from the area. The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. (PR)

Workshop on Form W-2CM

This is to advise all employers that the Division of

Revenue and Taxation, Department of Finance will be conducting a workshop for the Annual Wage and Salary Statement, Form (W-2CM) for tax year 2014 and other 2014 yearend filing requirements. The workshop will be on Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2014. The first seminar will be from 8am to 11am and the second will be from 1pm to 4pm at the Multi-Purpose Center. Businesses, employers and all payroll service companies are encouraged to attend. Confirm your attendance by calling the Division of Revenue and Taxation at 664-1098 or fax at 664-1015. (DOF)

CCA board meeting on Nov. 25

The Commonwealth Cancer Association's board of directors will be holding its regular meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 25, 2014, at 3:00pm at the CCA conference room. Agenda includes reports from the president and program updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the CCA at 682-0050 or email at cca@ccamarianas.org. (CCA)

MEETING NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Marianas Visitors Authority, hereby gives notice that a Regular Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 25, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. at the MVA Conference Room San Jose Professional Building Saipan, MP 96950.

MEETING AGENDA

1) Preliminary Matters

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes - September 23, 2014

2) Public Comments

3) Committee Reports

1. Finance
2. Personnel

4) New Business

1. Saipan-da License Agreement

5) Old Business

1. Tourist Exit Survey

6) Miscellaneous/Announcements

7) Executive Session

8) Adjournment

/s/ Marian Aldan-Pierce
Chair, MVA Board of Directors

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public, all business vendors and accounts that as of November 14, 2014, Francisco "Kitz" Barja is no longer an employee of Pacific Saipan, Inc./One Pacific Distributors.

Please direct all business matters to Ms. Jocelyn Leomo, Interim Manager at 233-3999.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public, all business vendors and accounts that as of November 14, 2014, Michael Busby is no longer an employee/ General Manager of Pacific Saipan, Inc./One Pacific Distributors.

Please direct all business matters to Ms. Jocelyn Leomo, Interim Manager at 233-3999.

**On November 21st Please Vote #1
for Governor Inos and Senator Torres**

Our Record Speaks for ITself!

- ★ The Economy Is Growing: 4.4% in 2013
- ★ 100% of our Retirees pension restored
- ★ New Investments every day
- ★ Safer Streets

ACTIONS
Always
Prove Why Words
Mean Nothing

I'm part of
IT
2014

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune
THE CHM'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

A job for Congress

Even with 3 percent growth last quarter and unemployment at 5.8 percent, the lowest rate since the summer of 2008, Americans still worry about the economy, and with good reason.

While available jobs have increased at the top and the bottom of the pay scale, not much is happening in between. The country's vast middle class is also treading stagnant water when it comes to wages, which grew an average of 2 percent over the last year, barely outpacing the 1.7 percent inflation rate. Exit polls during the recent midterm elections showed that 78 percent of voters were troubled by the economy's direction, with two-thirds saying it's getting worse.

Millennials are still experiencing a slow launch. Weighed down by high college debt and low-paying jobs, too many are unable to fully participate in the economy, buy homes and start families. Older adults, meanwhile, are reluctant to retire because of inadequate pensions or savings. That means more of them are blocking others who are trying to climb the employment ladder.

Despite employment increases, the underemployment rate, which includes discouraged job seekers who aren't looking for work and part-timers who want full-time positions, is 11.5 percent. Although that's a significant improvement over the 13.7 percent rate a year ago, economists warn that it's still too high. Too many Americans are desperate for work, which keeps the pressure on wages low.

Some economists are optimistic that higher wages are on the horizon if growth continues. But the election suggested that Americans won't believe it until they see it. Even though they voted resoundingly against Democrats, the red states of Alaska, Arkansas, Nebraska, and South Dakota voted for minimum-wage hikes, sending a clear message of concern about the economy.

Now in charge of both houses of Congress, Republicans should heed that message and look for ways to make progress on economic issues. They should be able to agree to a higher federal minimum wage than the current \$7.25 an hour, even if it's less than the \$10.10 an hour President Obama has called for. At the same time, they could tie future increases to an economic indicator such as the Consumer Price Index, as New Jersey and other states have. As the Washington Post's Charles Lane has noted, that would give Democrats the higher wage they want while depriving them of a winning issue to use against Republicans in the future.

Most importantly, a higher minimum wage would give many Americans an immediate raise while increasing the upward pressure on wages in general. Stagnant pay, unwieldy personal debt, and poor retirement outlooks did not go away after the midterms. And until Washington starts solving these problems, voter anger won't go away either.

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Learning to be less arrogant toward a changing China

By HAROLD JACKSON
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

SHANGHAI, China—Once known as the Paris of the East, Shanghai has long been a setting where European style comfortably cohabited with Asian sensibilities. But in this new China, where capitalistic fervor is barely contained by a communist regime whose velvet glove still knows how to strike harshly, this city's resemblance to a Western metropolis seems even more pronounced.

But it's not just the Vera Wang boutique we passed by on the way to my hotel that makes me think this way. It is the confident stride of Chinese shoppers and workers on the street, it is the tone of their voice as they relate with pride what they have built and are building, it is the confidence in which they talk about their country's future.

I'm in China to learn how to be less arrogant. No, really. A *People's Daily* editor among a group of Chinese journalists who visited Philadelphia in September said arrogance was the reason Americans know so little about China. So, I'm here to learn.

Actually, making this trip as one of several American journalists participating in a program sponsored by the China United States Exchange Foundation was planned months before I knew how arrogant I was. But the timing couldn't be better.

You see, I don't totally disagree with the newspaper editor from Beijing. Americans should know more about China. We don't because we didn't believe we needed to be concerned about a lesser power. But with China now seemingly poised to challenge America's world economic dominance, it's time we paid closer attention.

Most Americans, I think, realize that today's China isn't the uniformly dressed collective of worker bees that Mao Tse-tung presided over more than a generation ago. But, how China has been able to embrace the same market economic principles that propel capitalism, while retaining a rigidly communist grip on all other aspects of Chinese society, is a mystery to us.

Chairman Mao wasn't around to see the transformation. He died in 1976. Three years later, Deng Xiaoping began engineering the change. But as pointed out by *New Yorker* reporter Evan Osnos, author of *Age of Ambition: Chasing Fortune, Truth, and Faith in the New China*, the movement began at the grass roots.

The collective approach to farming ordered by Mao had led to famine throughout China, including the village of Xiaogang, where 18 farmers decided to ignore government edicts and try something different. They divided the land, followed their own

planting and harvesting schedules, and produced enough crops to sell the excess for profit.

Rather than crack down on the farmers, communist officials not only let them continue, with Deng's assent, they also let the idea spread, creating a "birdcage economy" in which the market was given only enough air to thrive without encouraging further independence. But the entrepreneurship genie was out of the bottle. Finally, in 1979, Deng declared, "Let some people get rich first, and gradually all the people will get rich together."

The next year was pivotal, Osnos said, with China creating special economic zones that offered tax breaks to attract foreign investment. In 1985, the government lifted restrictions on where people could live and rural residents began leaving the farms for jobs in the cities. An accompanying shutdown of state industries pushed more workers into the private sector.

Such rapid changes propelled a movement for independence beyond work, culminating in the 1989 mass protests in Beijing at Tiananmen Square, which began after the death of dissident leader Hu Yaobang. The government sent in troops. Protesters were killed. An iconic photo of a lone demonstrator confronting a tank has since served as an enduring symbol of the Chinese quest for more freedom.

That quest, despite efforts to suppress its presence, hovered like a rain cloud over the 2008 Olympics. The world paid attention as dissidents were rounded up before the Beijing Games. Journalists covering the Olympics had to overcome restrictions on Internet access enforced to keep the Chinese public from learning too much too fast.

Six years later, I'm in China to learn how much has changed and how much is yet to occur.

Every nation is a contradiction. America, the land of the free, leads the world in the number of people in prisons and jails, 2.2 million when last counted; too many of them African Americans like me. China's contradictions, though, may be even more untenable.

The people in America's prisons know they are not free. There is no pretense. In China, pretense seems crucial to individual success. But I don't know that for a fact. It's what I want to find out.

I want to know whether the Chinese believe being free to make a profit off of your labor is fair compensation for not having full access to the Internet, or not being free to speak your mind about your government. I'll try not to let my arrogance get in the way of what I want to learn.

Harold Jackson is editorial page editor of The Philadelphia Inquirer.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published.

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Uttimu Diniseha pot Natibu

Agupa' na ha'ane botasion gobietnu entalu' Heinz yan Eulogio. Si Heinz ha abibiba proteksion direchon natibu gi hilu' kuttura yan tradision. Si Eulogio modetnu na linala' gi papa' areglon Chinu yan casino. Ala kuenta botasion pot Natibu kontra Chinu!

Estague' na asuntu tafafana' pa'gu na eleksion: Proteksion 'sino destrosion kutturan natibu. Gaige futtunan famaguon-ta gi haf disposition-mu agupa' na ha'ane.

Todu i dos kandidatu hu sentuñg' deste antes. Mauleg relasione-hu yan kada unu. Lau mapega un' asuntu ni debi bai' fama' disision. Era proteksion tautau-ta gi papa' Heinz pat destrosion modun linala' ta gi papa' banderan Eulogio.

Afañielos, ti listuyu' umesgaihon mabogbug espiritu natibu gi famaguon-ta. Muñgayu' sumaunau chumapag haf' sustansian niha kumu famaguon natibu ni mau' udai trañkilo gi galaide' kuttura yan tradision. Ti listuyu' tumupa siha ginen tanu' niha 'nai ma-establese sustansian Chamorro yan Karolinas. Gaige gi edda' tano'ta i fitme na añañlan linala' niha. Taigue gi casino!

Mananayuyot-yu' na u dinanche disision-ta agupa' na ha'ane. Puede ti masge' ya tafan arikohe dispues yan si Heinz yan Ray pot para ta areglia mona fitme yan abundansia na linala' tautau-ta. Sen mas, un' dañkulu na si Yuus ma'ase'. Si Yuus una'e hit felis yan geftau na bendision agupa' na ha'ane. Si Iku.

'Man-mañge famaguon-hu'

Gi komboksion-hu yan kompareghu Candyn Taman, ha estori-aye-yu' pot si Maria-Ana (Mariana). Tutuhu' lago'ña i amku' un' oga' an hafaisen mamaisague "man-mañge famaguon-hu". Kasse i amku ginacha' ume' emahalañg pot sige mas adbansau idathia.

Tumalag hilu' gi hegsu' I Deni para u famaisen ayudu. Lau sumeha 'nai ha li'e na guiyu ayu na batkada i ti man-e' ekuñgog. Dispues siha sumugun ginen i tanu' i famaguona pot apenas appottunitad.

'Nai tumalag papa', hali'e gi un' banda mataña dos prohimi sige guatu ya man-manñgiñe'. Sige ha estudiaye haye i dos prohimi

sa' mampos motmut respetu yan yine' ase'. Era si Heinz yan Ray.

Galaide' Natibu

Este na eleksion pot konsensian natibu yan kau listu umatreibig'ue' gi proteksion kutturaña lamayot patte pot futtunan famaguon-ta. Uttimu sakudida para tafan mañaluda gi tihon-ta dimas de tihon Chinu.

Huñgan, guaha dididi' dañkulu na fina' tasin chinatsaga gi para ta komprende satton hafa asunto-ta kumu natibu. Lau pasensiaye ya un' na'e animu umatetuye haf' dichu ilelegña i kompas konsensiamu. Gaige guennau na mau'udai futtunan famaguon-ta.

Sumen na' pinite i para hita mismu fuetsau para tana' pople espiritu famaguon-ta gi hafa fitme na pisun tinatten niha gi hilu' sahyan kuttura yan tradision.

Gaige gi patman kanai miyu ya seguruyu' na in' hahassu lokue' silensi haf' mauleg yan antau para i famaguon-ta siha. Si Yuus Maase'!

Destrosiau na finapos

Rason na kada ratu hu repite inadahe pot guaha siha mañeluta gi todou atmos bandan tasen Pasifiku esta pa'gu man-mumumu para umachule' tatte haf' dichu dignun niha (onru) kumu tautau isla. Puti na finapos ya hu diseseha na tita padese este na chinatsaga pot diskuidu-ta.

Lamegai man-sustansiau siha na asuntu numanañgga hit para ta diskute seriosamente. Mientras tantus mantinane' hit politikan destrosion ginen halom (hita mismu) ya man-malefa hit ni mas man-presisu siha na asunto-ta.

Giya New Caledonia huli'e un' biha mafatinase fina' sadigane gi tatten un' dañkulun palahyu. Ayu offisioña para u setbe amuña kumu muchacha. Apmam na tiempu guuhe ya huli'e taduñg hinassoañ un' taloa ne' 'nai matatachoñg gi papa' troñku. Seguruyu' na ti ume' efresku soluke hafaisen mamaisague' haf' na taiguine modun linala'ña un' esklablu gi tano'ña. Ha chule' Frances i minan i tanu ya ha bende. Kuantu mohon humanau guatu para i natibu iya New

well-represented at these functions but he's got a job to do and, in my opinion, he's doing it to the best he can considering everything that's going on—like trying to clean up the crap that he inherited from Ben.

Eloy doesn't have the luxury of going to all the events and pocket meetings or going door-to-door like Heinz and Ray, shaking hands and kissing babies, and the biggest weapon in any candidate arsenal—the ever-popular "wave! Heinz and Ray don't have jobs right now so they can go and do all that's expected of a candidate running for public office.

Get your facts straight guys and stop the last-minute low blows. That is definitely not one looks for in a "clean election"

"IT" is absolutely "WORTED IT"!

Michael Geisinger

Dandan, Saipan

Change starts with you!

For a few years, I've lived away from home. I've kept my voting status and have been quiet all these years.

Today, I ask you to think about the past few years. Think about education, healthcare, your lifestyle, and ask yourself one question, were you content and satisfied? I can honestly say that I wasn't. I was tired of living paycheck to paycheck helping my parents pay for utilities that amounted to what I took home after deductions. I was tired of working twice as hard to see my wages only go to bills and not enough to provide more for myself. I was tired of the empty and broken promises set forth from our leaders and after election—wasn't remembered or even validated. I was tired of living in the shadows of our Commonwealth, so I moved.

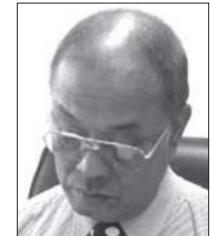
I take pride in being a Chamorro from the CNMI. I've upheld my tradition, customs, and culture. One day I hope to return home and live in our home paradise but not when I can't rely on improper healthcare, limited resources for education or high cost of living. Yes, our retirees are given back their full pension as well as retro pay for the past year. Yes, our people received utility vouchers. Yes, it is the promise that IT will continue and that IT will work harder but...IT was given sufficient time in the past few years to do so. Why just now?

Let's stop living in the shadows of broken promises and lies. Let's stop holding our breaths for empty promises of making change happen because it only happens when they need something. Let's give Heinz and Ray a chance to affect the changes our CNMI needs to thrive and progress. Let's give Heinz and Ray a chance to be the change we need. Ask yourself, can you afford to wait for change or do you want change to happen

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



Caledonia?

Giya Saudi Arabia tanu laña, mattu i Amerikanu ya ha deklara na gai interesgue' gi laña. Malachai mana' fan momu i natibu mientras ha chocopchup i laña. Na ti lañan i natibu? Manu 'nai mañoda' atordatña i Amerikanu "interest" lau hagas ti dueñun lañan Saudi Arabia?

Yangin siakassu masoda' un' guaguan mina gi oriyen tano'ta haye dueñun ennau na mina? Na ti hita man-dueñu? Estague' siha asuntu ni hu apupunta huyuñg para tana' la anchu fan atanta. Dírechon natibu!

Delegadon Marianas

I delegadun iya Marianas, taimanu otru siha delegadu ginen territories, mana'e putdet man-bota gi halom komitehan sanpapa' na guma congresson iya America.

I estotbu gi ayu na putdet i bali 'nai tai bali botuña yan tai bali 'nai gai bali disision botuña. Mampos ti komprendiyon este na areglu lau disposision Congresson America.

Sige hu dibina manu otru gi tanu 'nai guaha balimu ni tai bali yan tai bali 'nai gai bali. Esta pa'gu uma' afuluyu' yan este na areglu. Yan este na modun representasian guaha para hita, pues ala kuanta tai bali yan sumen taya' signifikasioña ayu na officina. Haf taimanu u guaha representasian 'nai maprohibe i delegadu chumogue checho'ña?

now? Vote for Heinz and Ray in this runoff—the change starts with you.

Roslyn Leon Guerrero

Vancouver, WA

The fortune cookie and a glass of water

My name is Gabriel Dela Cruz Camacho. I was born and raised in the beautiful village of Oleai and now a resident of Capital Hill. I have served under many administrations under different capacities dating back since the Trust Territory days. I worked with the last Mariana Islands District Legislature in 1976, then with the inception of the new Northern Marianas Islands Legislature. I also worked as assistant legislative affairs officer under former governor Carlos S. Camacho and was deputy/acting Secretary of Finance under former governor Froilan C. Tenorio where I retired in 1997.

During my days of work, I dealt with many issues involving decisions that were both critical and compromising. This runoff election involves a lot of retirees like me having to make a decision so that we could continue to have our benefits and live a happy retirement life. The views I express should be taken as my personal observation and not to break my family or anyone's family gubernatorial choice.

What I'd like to offer is an analogy between the two campaigns in the runoff.

When you walk into a Chinese restaurant, you are treated to a fortune cookie and a glass of water. Now let's say that the fortune cookie represents Inos-Torres and that the water is Hofschneider-Yumul. The message hidden in the fortune cookie could give you the blessings that you're waiting for or something not so appealing to you. A lot of the time with fortune cookies, our expectations are high but the reality is not good enough, so you go ahead and eat the cookie. As for the water, it is clear. You could see right through it as it represents transparency. You ate the cookie and happened to choke on it, so do you eat another one? Or do you drink the water to solve the problem? So you drink the water because it solves the problem that the fortune cookie could not do.

The moral of this story is to allow you to understand that you must see things through and not things hidden that may entail disaster.

So I appeal to my family and friends and humbly ask for your support in voting for Heinz-Ray this coming runoff election so that our lives can "change" for the better starting with you, starting now.

Gabriel Dela Cruz Camacho

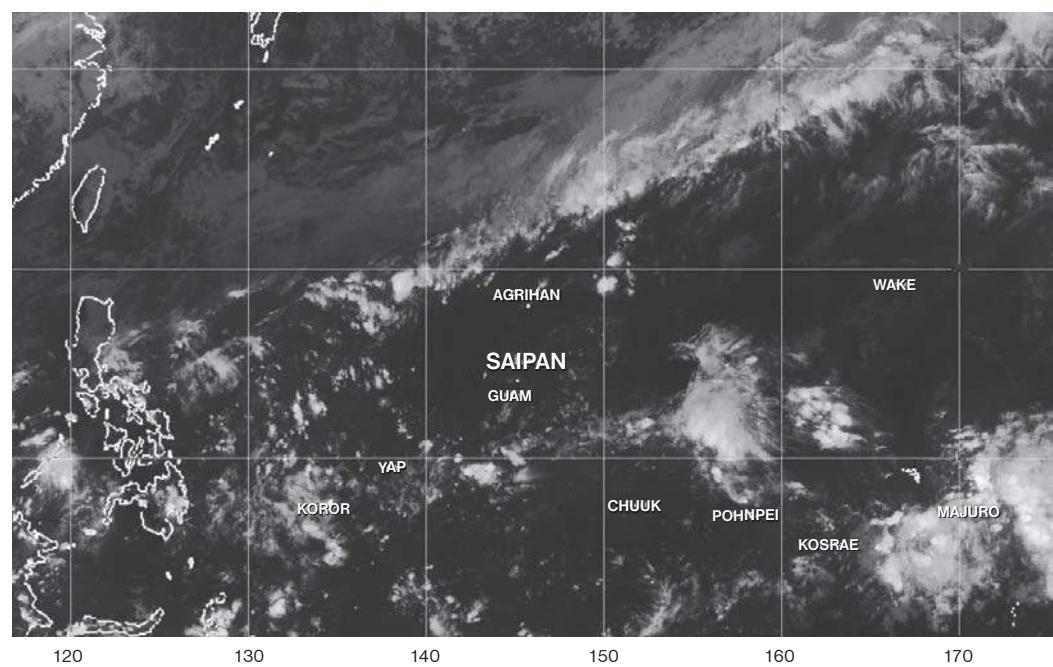
Capital Hill, Saipan

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

| TODAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|
| | | | | | |
| Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers | |
| ▲ 87° | ▼ 77° | ▲ 88° | ▼ 77° | ▲ 87° | ▼ 77° |
| ▲ 87° | ▼ 77° | ▲ 87° | ▼ 77° | ▲ 87° | ▼ 77° |

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2014

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front extends west-southwestward from 25N155E to 20N138E and then continues southwestward past 16N130E as a shear line. Extensive cloudiness and rain showers are found along and north of the frontal boundary to beyond 25N. A few thunderstorms are found within 50 miles of the frontal boundary and along the shear line toward the Philippines. A weak trade-wind trough is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms in the vicinity of Palau and to its west from 5N to 10N between 135E to west of 130E. Farther to the east, scattered showers and a few pockets of thunderstorms exist within 100 miles of a line from 9N135E through portions of Yap state to near 9N141E and then weakly south of Guam at 10N145E and on to 12N152. The area then broadens while remaining well north of Chuuk and Pohnpei into another trough of low level convergence with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms from 9N to 14N between 152E to 159E. Most of the Marshall Islands are being affected by an active westward moving trough in the trade-wind flow that extends from south of Kwajalein to east of the dateline. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms cover an area from 2N to 11N between 166E to east of the dateline with some heavier activity southwest of Majuro and also along 9N to the northeast of Majuro.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

| | | | |
|---------------|----------------|------|------|
| Guam And Rota | Thundershowers | ▲ 85 | ▼ 80 |
| Palau | Thunderstorms | ▲ 85 | ▼ 79 |
| Yap | Thunderstorms | ▲ 85 | ▼ 80 |
| Chuuk | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 85 | ▼ 80 |
| Pohnpei | Thunderstorms | ▲ 86 | ▼ 77 |
| Kosrae | Thunderstorms | ▲ 86 | ▼ 77 |
| Majuro | Thunderstorms | ▲ 84 | ▼ 81 |

Tides

| | | | |
|----------|-------|------------|----------|
| 12:06 AM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.1 Feet |
| 6:29 AM | Today | High Tide: | 1.7 Feet |
| 12:01 PM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.9 Feet |
| 5:38 PM | Today | High Tide: | 1.9 Feet |

Sunrise/Sunset

| | | |
|----------|---------|---------|
| Today | 6:21 AM | 5:44 PM |
| Friday | 6:21 AM | 5:44 PM |
| Saturday | 6:22 AM | 5:44 PM |
| Sunday | 6:23 AM | 5:44 PM |
| Monday | 6:23 AM | 5:44 PM |

Moonrise/Moonset

| | | |
|----------|---------|---------|
| Today | 4:02 AM | 4:02 PM |
| Friday | 4:54 AM | 4:48 PM |
| Saturday | 5:48 AM | 5:37 PM |
| Sunday | 6:44 AM | 6:29 PM |
| Monday | 7:41 AM | 7:25 PM |

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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 12, 2014

| DEPARTURES | | | ARRIVALS | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) | | | GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN | | |
| UA5070 4:15am 5:05am Daily | | | UA5069 2:45am 3:35am Daily | | |
| UA5068 8:00am 8:50am 3 | | | UA5071 6:40am 7:30am 3 | | |
| UA5068 8:40am 9:30am 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 | | | UA5071 7:15am 8:05am 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 | | |
| UA5039 2:20pm 4:00pm 6, 7 via Rota | | | UA5039 1:00pm 1:50pm 6, 7 | | |
| UA5078 3:10pm 4:00pm 1, 5 | | | UA5038 1:10pm 2:40pm 2, 4 via Rota | | |
| UA5038 3:10pm 4:00pm 2, 4 | | | UA5077 1:50pm 2:40pm 1, 5 | | |
| UA5040 6:55pm 7:45pm 1, 5 | | | UA5041 5:35pm 6:25pm 1, 5 | | |
| UA5078 8:35pm 9:25pm 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 | | | UA5077 7:15pm 8:05pm 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 | | |
| UA5044 10:40pm 11:30pm 1, 5 | | | UA5043 9:20pm 10:10pm 1, 5 | | |
| SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP) | | | GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP) | | |
| UA5039 2:20pm 2:55pm 6, 7 | | | UA5038 1:10pm 1:45pm 2, 4 | | |
| ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM) | | | ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN | | |
| UA5039 3:25pm 4:00pm 6, 7 | | | UA5038 2:05pm 2:40pm 2, 4 | | |
| SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR) | | | PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN | | |
| DL287 6:05am 1:05am+1 2, 6 via NRT | | | DL298 4:30am 3:00pm 3, 7 via NRT | | |
| SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) | | | NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN | | |
| DL287 6:05am 8:40am 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 | | | DL298 10:25am 3:00pm Daily | | |
| DL297 4:20pm 7:05pm Daily | | | DL288 8:55pm 1:25am+1 1, 3, 4, 5, 7 | | |
| SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) | | | SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN | | |
| OZ606 2:10am 6:00am 1 | | | OZ603 9:00am 2:20pm Daily | | |
| OZ606 2:40am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 | | | 7C 3402 10:10am 3:30pm Daily | | |
| OZ604 3:20pm 7:10pm Daily | | | OZ605 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 | | |
| 7C 3401 4:30pm 8:20pm Daily | | | OZ605 8:10pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 | | |
| SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) | | | BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN | | |
| OZ608 3:10am 6:20am 4, 7 | | | OZ607 9:00pm 1:50am+1 3, 6 | | |
| SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) | | | SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN | | |
| 3U8648 6:10am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7 | | | 3U8647 10:30pm 5:50am+1 3, 4, 6, 7 | | |
| SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK) | | | BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN | | |
| MU764A 1:30am 5:30am 4, 7 | | | MU763A 4:30pm 12:30am+1 3, 6 | | |
| MU764 1:30am 5:30am 1, 5 | | | MU763 4:30pm 12:30am+1 4, 7 | | |
| SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) | | | GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN | | |

WHO BENEFITS?

In March 2014, Governor Eloy S. Inos commissioned a report called, "Saipan Casino Taxation". In it, several tax models were outlined including one which assumed \$366,000,000 gross revenue or \$1,000,000 per day in revenues for the casino.

After deductions, and various "tax adjustments", the casino could claim a net income of \$49,000,000, on which they would pay \$82,000 in taxes to the CNMI.

| Special Saipan Casino Income Tax Structure | Saipan Gaming Income Tax Liability for |
|--|--|
| Net Gaming Revenue | \$49,500,000 |
| Income Tax Liability | \$5,306,680 |
| GRNRC Adjustment | (\$2,476,380) |
| SCNRC Adjustment | (\$2,661,870) |
| Tax Rebate Offset | (\$87,122.94) |
| Total | \$81,307 |

The current tax structure of the Commonwealth which provides a low gross revenue tax rate and three-tiers of reductions for income associated with Saipan casino provides significant incentives for long-term investment and growth of the economy.

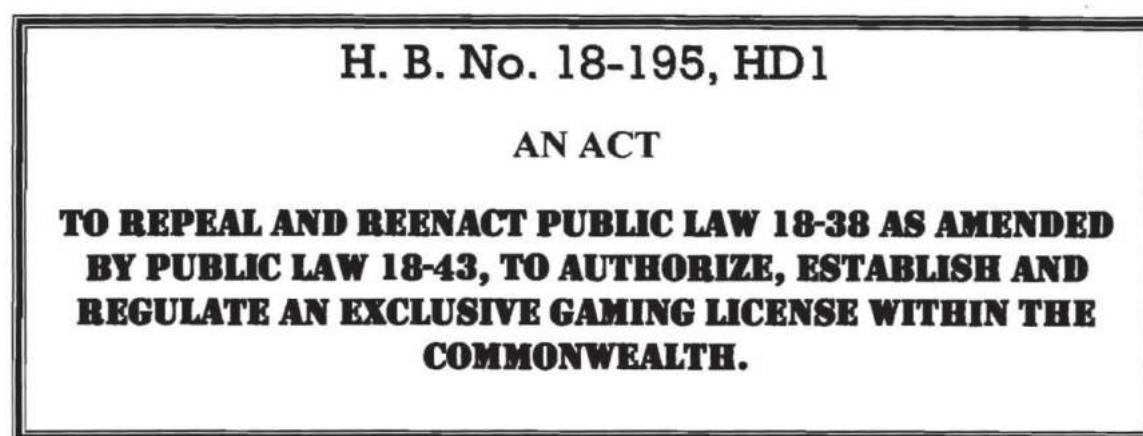
But that was evidently not good enough. So, on June 18, 2014, the legislature passed H.B. No. 18-195, HD1, now Public Law 18-56 to give the casino a 100% tax exemption for 40 years.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Second Special Session

June 18, 2014

Representative Rafael S. Demapan, of Saipan, Precinct 2 (*for himself*, Representative Felicidad T. Ogumoro) in an open and public meeting with an opportunity for the public to comment, introduced the following Bill:



**So, the casino will NOT pay taxes for the next 40 years.
THEY PAY \$0 taxes on \$366,000,000 in revenue.**

**Who benefits from this arrangement?
NOT YOU. NOT the Commonwealth.
NOT even the Retirees.**



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Palau president wins global environmental honor

NOUMEA, New Caledonia—Palau President Tommy Remengesau Jr. has won the United Nation's highest environmental accolade, a Champion of the Earth Award, for spearheading major conservation initiatives and building the Pacific nation's economic resilience through green economy policies.

The Director General of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Dr. Colin Tukuitonga, has welcomed the recognition by the UN Environment Program of Remengesau's leader-

ship on environmental issues in the Policy Leadership category.

"This is a well-deserved accolade for President Remengesau and I wish to extend my congratulations on behalf of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community," Tukuitonga said.

"The President has led numerous conservation and broader environmental policies and initiatives which have implications beyond the Pacific region,

for example by establishing the world's first Nationwide Marine Sanctuary that protects more than 80 percent of Palau's 600,000 square kilometer of exclusive economic zone."

Remengesau was presented with his award by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and UNEP executive director Achim Steiner at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. yesterday, Nov. 19.

"I am honored to receive

this award on behalf of the traditional leaders, the people of Palau, and the islanders around the world, who are the stewards for the protection of our vast oceans and natural wealth," Remengesau said in a UNEP statement.

Highlights of SPC assistance in relation with environment and conservation to Palau include the introduction of an energy efficiency retrofitting loans scheme and formal training programs in such fields as fisheries development, aquaculture, disaster risk assessment and en-

ergy security.

For an overview of the development results Palau is achieving with SPC support see the 2014 Palau Country Programme report.

The Champions of the Earth is the UN flagship environmen-

tal prize that recognizes outstanding visionaries and leaders in the fields of policy, science, entrepreneurship, and civil society action.

For more about the 2014 winners visit: www.unep.org/champions. (SPC)

KES renews ties with Korean school



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Cultural exchange students program officials sign for Koblerville Elementary School and Whole Persons Christian Academy of Korea.

Koblerville Elementary School and Whole Person Christian Academy in Korea continue their partnership through a cultural exchange student program. This partnership has been ongoing for about three years in which at least 10 to 15 students in Kindergarten to 5th grade from Korea come and visit the island.

The students are usually accommodated by the school for two to three weeks to learn from each other in terms of in-

dividual cultures and education system. During the summer in 2015, the Koblerville Elementary School students aim to visit Korea under this program.

Koblerville Elementary School has a MY WAVE CLUB program that promotes tourism in the CNMI. Their goal is to help the community promote tourism through partnership and through building relationship with the children from other nation. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ETC DONATION

James B. Matsumoto of Express Financial, fourth from left, presents an Educational Tax Credit donation to Mount Carmel School officials.

First-time participants from GMS stand out at forensic competition

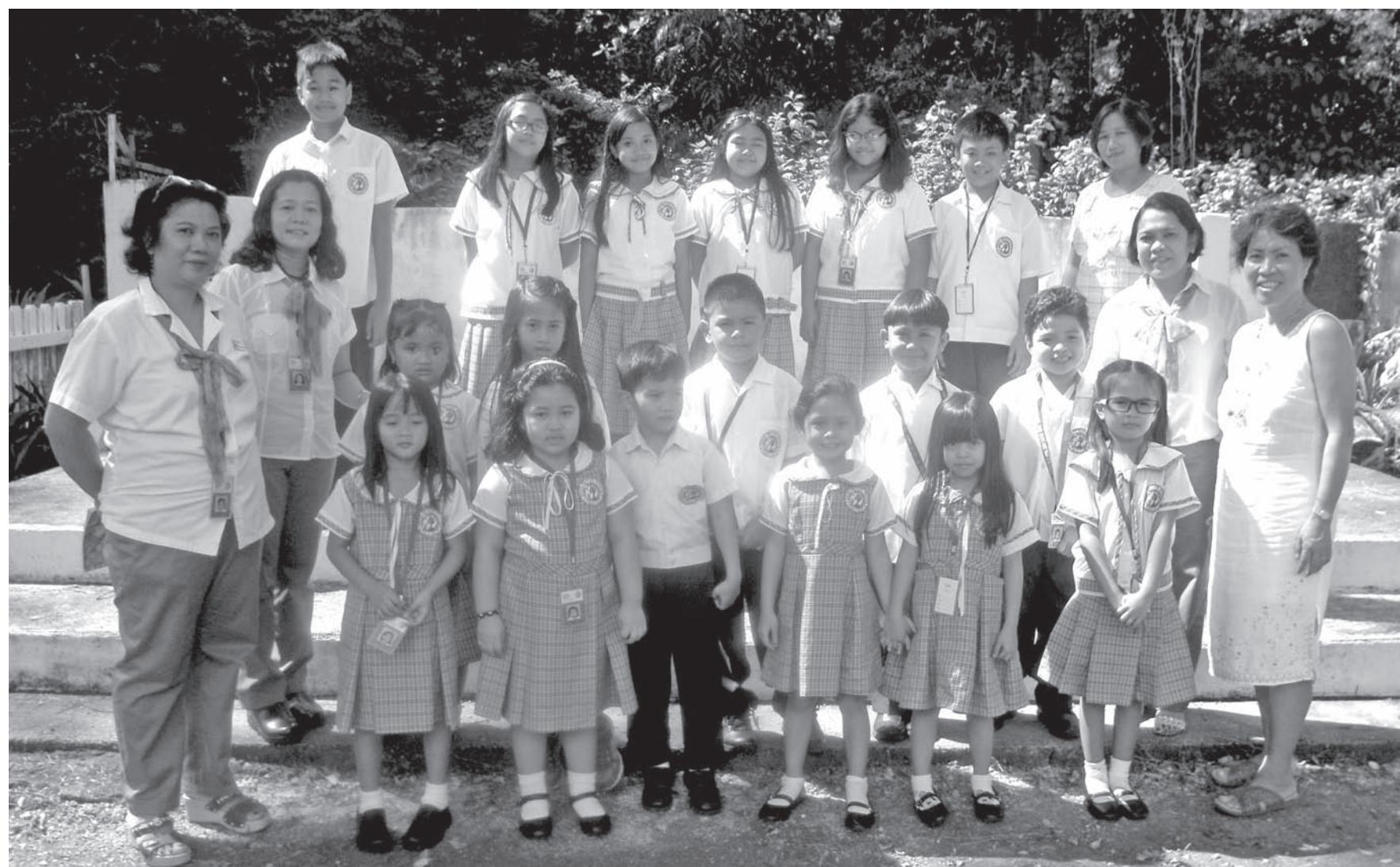
Green Meadow School fielded only a small group of students to compete in the Nov. 8, 2014, Primary Grade Forensic Competition held at Grace Christian Academy. Belonging mostly to Kindergarten classes and new grade students who are transferees from other schools, all of them competed for the first time at PGFC with outstanding results! Coaches of the students as well as their parents admitted that most of them were kind of worried as to how the children would perform for the first time in a competition and in front of a large audience.

Green Meadow School's administration congratulates all the competing students and thanks the coaches for the great job in training the students. GMS management also expresses its appreciation to the parents and friends for supporting the children before and during the competition."

■ 1st Place, Readers Forum: Josephine Lopez, K5

■ 2nd Place, Impromptu: Shalei Terrie K. Camacho, K5 Gualo Rai

■ 2nd Place, Choral Speaking: Shalei Terrie K. Camacho, K5; Paula Angela Bernardo, K5; Josephine Lopez, K5; Alexa



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Green Meadow School official and coaches/teachers proudly join in this group picture with the participants and winners in the Nov. 8, 2014, PGFC competition.

Ralene Panganiban, K5; Wilfredo Libante II, K5

■ 3rd Place, Dramatic Inter-

pretation: Leidy Audry Agacoscos, 1st Grade

■ 3rd Place, Duo Interpre-

tation: Eonzen Dela Paz, 5th Grade; Earl Lawrence Salamat, 5th Grade

■ 5th Place, Dramatic Interpretation: Paula Angela Bernardo, K5 Gualo Rai

Coaches: Analyn Danan, Zenaida Marcelo and Meliza Umali

Since the Administration and IT campaign refuse to provide credible information about the Governor's health the public must resort to speculating about the constitutional ramifications of the Governor's incapacity. The voters have a right to know who will be at the head of this government a few weeks from now, a few months from now, a year or two from now.

We respectfully ask a few relevant questions: Will the Governor resign or will his incapacity simply render him unable to run the government full-time? -as is presently the case. Under those circumstances, will there be a special election or will the constitutional succession provisions kick in and make Ralph DLG. Torres the next governor? Who will be his lt. governor?



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Hofsneider-Yumul camp question Inos' debate snub

The Hofsneider-Yumul campaign feels disappointment together with the people of the CNMI in light of Gov. Eloy S. Inos' non-participation in a debate/forum. The committee-to-elect and the public-at-large have been anxious to have this debate as many undecided voters have expressed interest in listening to both men's plans for the future.

"Now that it has come down to a man-to-man competition, it is absolutely crucial for the people of the CNMI to hear from the two gubernatorial candi-

dates," said gubernatorial candidate Heinz Hofsneider. "The governor's denying the people hear from him—undecided voters, especially—speaks volumes to his administration's lack of transparency."

"This surely shows weakness in the current administration," Hofsneider said. "A weakness, first, in being so withholding from the people. It raises questions on the governor's physical weakness, not being able to publicly state his health conditions to an electorate that doesn't consist of merely his

supporters."

"There's also a weakness in his ability to defend himself," Hofsneider added. "Gov. Inos has said that he'd let the last 20 months of their administration speak on their behalf. The last 20 months do not call into question the governor's various roles and decision-making in the Fitial administration. They don't take into account the hard work and good that Lt. Gov. Jude Hofsneider has done for the CNMI while in the capacity of acting governor."

"There is weakness to be

questioned in his ability to be an adequate financial manager for the CNMI," Hofsneider said, referring to the governor's time as Secretary of Finance under Fitial. "This leaves a lot to be questioned when the governor has allowed \$23 million to go unpaid to CUC and his failure to remit \$200 million to our Retirement Fund. There is also the issue of his hiding the truth that the Settlement Agreement will only last four years."

Hofsneider was eager to engage the governor on

the logic behind the 40-year tax exemption for the casino. "First, the administration kept the people out of the decision-making of this whole casino project, now they won't be here to answer the people's questions on where protection is for the financial security for this and future generations."

"We can only give so much sympathy for a man who is seeking the highest office in the Commonwealth," Hofsneider said. "He is a public figure which demands full, constant engagement in multiple, com-

plex issues."

"They've hidden the truth of the governor's health and perhaps Ralph Torres' inexperience or questionable ability to be a real leader," Hofsneider said. "This comes as no surprise as the governor has spent the last nine years hiding the financial mismanagements and lack of vision in policy making that has constantly brought us to federal court in such cases as with the Retirement Fund and CUC's stipulated orders. This has led to federal court-driven solutions." (PR)

House top vote-getter believes in Inos-Torres

Representative-elect Angel A. Demapan (R-Precinct 1), the top-vote getter amongst all candidates for House of Representatives, strongly believes that an Inos-Torres administration will continue the current upward trend in the Commonwealth's economy.

"The facts are there and their record of accomplishment tells it like it is," said Demapan. "Since becoming governor only 21 months ago, the CNMI's GDP numbers have steadily posted strong signs of economic growth."

Moreover, Demapan points out that one of the significant reasons why so much progress has been achieved lately is because of the spirit of coop-

eration being fostered by the administration, the U.S. delegate and the CNMI Legislature.

"As the governor's press secretary, I've had the opportunity to witness first-hand how well Gov. Inos and Senate President Torres have worked with our elected leaders," said Demapan. "In fact,

when the Inos-Torres team was formed, I was even more motivated to run for office under the Republican Party because I felt that this was a leadership we can depend on for our future."

"The team of Inos-Torres are doing more than talking about their message of hope, they are working hard for all of us today," he added.

Demapan's campaign for a

House seat zoomed in on the need to develop a comprehensive plan for the establishment of a viable citizen workforce in light of the recent five-year extension of the CW program. This will remain a priority when he joins the 19th Legislature in January.

"We need to develop a strong citizen workforce in order to meet the federal mandates that have been imposed upon the Commonwealth," stated Demapan. "I believe this is important because the issue of workforce greatly impacts our economy. And with the major uptick in visitor arrivals and the new hotels and resorts that will be constructed, we need to work with all stakeholders, public and private, local and

federal, to come up with the most sensible solutions."

Demapan noted that the Inos-Torres team garnered the overwhelming support of the people in the general election, a strong indication of the public's confidence in the leadership of Inos and Torres.

"I am so grateful too for the overwhelming support I received from the good people of Precinct 1. So this runoff election, I humbly ask my supporters and the people of the Commonwealth to join me in supporting the team of Inos and Torres. Together, we can continue giving the people the leadership they want and the progress they deserve," said Demapan. (PR)

SHEFA official slams deceptive HY statement

Joe Mafnas, vice chairman of the board of directors for the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance, had the following comments regarding what he says is a "misleading and deceptive" press release issued by Heinz Hofsneider and Ray Yumul.

"In a press release issued today by Yumul and his running mate Heinz Hofsneider, an

allegation was made that, with the passage of Public Law 18-56, SHEFA funding would be in limbo. Nothing could be further from the truth," Mafnas said.

"The real facts are that Public Law 18-56 prohibits new licenses or additional machines over the present number of machines for poker gaming after April 2015. All poker licenses issued

prior to this date will remain in operation indefinitely provided, of course, that poker operators continue to comply with poker operation regulations."

"What makes this allegation even more dumbfounding to me is the fact that Ray Yumul was present during the discussions on this legislation as a sitting senator. Does Ray not talk to his own run-

ning mate?" Mafnas asked.

"The students that benefit from SHEFA deserve so much more than to be lied to by individuals trying to become the leaders of our Commonwealth," Mafnas stated. "The bottom line is that the existing poker machines will continue to provide funding to SHEFA. End of story!" (PR)

"The CNMI must be in a position to meet the labor changes that will materialize with changes in federal law," Propst said. "And we must adapt and begin to anticipate what these labor and employment opportunities will be, get ahead of the curve if you will, to ensure that our people have jobs. I am confident that Heinz and Ray can lead us in that direction."

According to Propst, the other challenge facing the Commonwealth is unemployment, which he says will require greater attention to education and training. "Furthermore," he stated, "there is an increasing need for a well-trained local workforce in order to meet future labor demands if our economy is to expand and improve."

As a private citizen, Propst volunteers for a variety of community-related activities. He resides on Saipan with his wife and his four children.

Propst attended Northern Marianas College, Sophia University in Japan on a JAL scholarship,

and graduated from the University of Hawaii at Manoa with a B.A. in communications. (PR)

Propst: NMI wants responsible governance

Representative-elect Edwin K. Propst won handily in Precinct 1 where 17 candidates vied for six House seats. As a public interest advocate, Propst believes the community wants responsible governance and is looking for leaders who will put the public interest first.

"I believe that unemployment and high utility rates are two of the biggest challenges facing the CNMI today," said Propst. "For starters, the private sector must stop subsidizing the government's failure to pay their utilities in a timely manner. It is equally important for the government to actively reduce its heavy reliance on fossil fuels and to invest in al-

ternative energy and other infrastructure that will last beyond the next 10 to 20 years; this will help CUC customers and ensure that we're planning for the future."

Propst said one of the major reasons he is endorsing Hofsneider and Yumul is that this team recognizes the importance of setting the community on a path to alternative energy and has a total commitment to infrastructure development that will last beyond the usual 10-year period.

"During our house-to-house visits, Heinz and Ray heard for themselves how hard it is for the average family to pay their power bills; they know what it is like out

there and they have real, workable solutions," Propst said. "I am a big believer in listening and fully trust that Heinz and Ray have taken to heart the expressed needs of our community and that they are prepared to follow through on their commitments."

According to Propst, the other challenge facing the Commonwealth is unemployment, which he says will require greater attention to education and training. "Furthermore," he stated, "there is an increasing need for a well-trained local workforce in order to meet future labor demands if our economy is to expand and improve."

"Even Juan N. Babauta, one of their challengers—and now new friend—thought they needed new ideas," Del Rosario said. "We are naturally hoping that the general public feels it is time to retire their approach and pass the mantle to the next generation of leaders, ideas and approaches." (PR)

'The 'slim few' have been in power for too long'

Inos-Torres and their group of powerful business and political friends have dominated the political, economic and social segments of our community for almost 15 years and they claim that we think that only a "slim few" are qualified" to be governor and

lieutenant governor of our Commonwealth, said HY campaign spokesman John P. Del Rosario.

"That is a claim no one will find believable, in light of all the facts," he said. "Keep in mind the slim few that have been at the helm of our government for the

last 15 years. The previous administrations have been rotating their leadership, simply inheriting and perpetuating the major problems plaguing the people of the CNMI. They have carried out often outdated solutions. The CNMI needs new ideas."

Ralph Yumul endorses HY in runoff

Rep. Ralph Yumul has endorsed the Hofsneider-Yumul team in the runoff election.

"Beyond the fact that Ray is my brother, I truly believe that alongside Heinz, the Hofsneider-Yumul tandem will bring about significant changes in the state of government affairs," Yumul said. "They both understand the state of the Commonwealth and have the experience to come in and clean things up. Heinz, a former House speaker, and Ray, an experienced legislator since the 14th Legislature, both have their hearts and minds in sync with the people."

"Ray, as a representative, I know, has stood with our people when controversial bills and tough issues were on the table," Yumul continued. "Heinz and Ray can and will restore trust back into the government after nine years of an administration that has many people wary of trusting public servants. We need confidence restored in order to thrive as a people and as a Commonwealth."

"I kindly ask my supporters to continue this movement for change and transparency in our government," Yumul said, "and to cast their vote for Heinz and Ray this runoff election." (PR)

9th Mission Support Command honors veterans

Brig. Gen. John Cardwell, commanding general, 9th Mission Support Command, attended a Veterans Day ceremony and gave the keynote speech to his soldiers, local veterans and their families at the American Memorial Park on Saipan on Nov. 11, to honor their service and remember the fallen on Veterans Day.

This was the first time a commanding general of the 9th MSC has attended a Veterans Day ceremony on Saipan.

Veterans Day is a day of reflection, remembrance, pride and patriotism. However, this particular ceremony had even deeper relevance for the locals as it coincided with the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Saipan, a very important part of the Pacific Campaign of World War II.

Cardwell was joined on this day by CNMI Lt. Gov. Jude Hofsneider.

Describing the historic relationship between Saipan as a Commonwealth of the United States, Hofsneider explained: "It was through the selfless gestures of a helpful country, that we, as a



people, were given a sense of renewal along with a spirit of patriotism. This morning we commemorate those patriots who truly went beyond the call to serve their fellow men and women," Hofsneider said. "We pay tribute to

those who sacrificed their lives in WWI, and we salute

the Greatest Generation—the soldiers, airmen, Marines and

CAPT. BRIGIDA SANCHEZ
Brig. Gen. John Cardwell, commanding general for the 9th Mission Support Command, U.S. Army Reserve, U.S. Army Pacific, and Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofsneider present the wreath during Veterans Day commemoration, Nov. 11, at American Memorial Park.

their local scouts who helped them secure the islands during the war."

During his speech Hofsneider talked about the history of the island's relationship with the United States and how a single act has inspired generations of service among the people of Saipan. He went on to honor those who served in WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm and those who most recently defended the nation in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Cardwell, a Tennessee native from a small, tight-knit community and a veteran himself, related strongly to the sense of community, en-

couraging attendees to continue to "truly honor our veterans by following the three 'Rs': remember, respond and resolve."

He encouraged all attendees, from seniors to children, to be living memorials to our veterans.

"Resolve not to waste a single day of the freedom we enjoy. For when we resolve to do so, then all the souls of veterans, living and past, can rejoice in knowing that the sacrifices they made yesterday, are still allowing all of us today, to build a better tomorrow," said Cardwell.

The 9th MSC is most ethnically diverse, geographically dispersed command in the U.S. Army Reserve, crossing seven times zones, two states, two territories, and a commonwealth. It has units located in the Hawaiian Islands, Guam, Saipan, Alaska, American Samoa, Japan and Korea. (*Hawaii Army Weekly*)

Busan travel agents tour Saipan, Tinian

Travel agents from the second largest city in Korea toured Saipan and Tinian this month in a FAM(iliarization) tour jointly sponsored by the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) and Asiana Airlines.

The tour aimed to educate the eight participating travel agents about the destination, in order to raise awareness of direct flights between Busan and Saipan and increase sales volume for Saipan and Tinian packages.

"We're projecting an increase in visitor arrivals this year from Korea, and visitors from the Busan area are an important part of that projection," said MVA Marketing Manager Bruce Bateman. "The MVA is pleased to sponsor this FAM tour in conjunction with Asiana and our tourism partners to give travel agents in Busan a taste of the Marianas, in person. This makes them better equipped to sell our destination."

While in the Northern Marianas from Nov. 5-9, 2014, the group inspected Mariana Resort & Spa, Aqua Resort Club, Fiesta Resort & Spa, Saipan World Resort, Hyatt Regency Saipan Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Coral Ocean Point Resort, and Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino. Sightseeing tours took them to Bird Island Lookout, Grotto, Banzai Cliff, House of Taga, Chulu Beach, Tinian Blowhole, and the award-winning Managaha. The group also took in a sunset dinner cruise, ATV tour, and boat tour.

In fiscal year 2013, visitors from Korea comprised 30 percent of total visitor arrivals to the Northern Mariana Islands. (MVA)



Travel agents and an Asiana Airlines manager from Busan, South Korea, visit Managaha as part of their tour of Saipan and Tinian on Nov. 5-9, 2014, on a familiarization tour jointly organized by Asiana and the Marianas Visitors Authority. **MVA**



Travel agents and an Asiana Airlines manager from Busan, South Korea, visit Bird Island Lookout as part of their tour of Saipan and Tinian on Nov. 5-9, 2014, on a familiarization tour jointly organized by Asiana and the Marianas Visitors Authority. **MVA**

Tebuteb stands firmly behind Heinz and Ray

Ray Tebuteb, a six-term member of the House of Representatives who recently won re-election to another term in Precinct 3, said he stands firmly in support of Heinz and Ray because the Commonwealth "needs leaders who are not compromised by big money and special interests and leaders who are prepared to make decisions that benefit the majority of people in the CNMI."

Tebuteb said the last term in the House of Representatives was extremely challenging given the entrenched interests and he is thankful to his constituents, the public, and other members of the House who fought for the issues they believe serve the greater good.

"Today's politics has been marred by self-interest and big money and I believe that the candidacy of Heinz and Ray will change that, which is why I support them and I ask my supporters to do the same," Tebuteb said. "My precinct may be the site of a casino and I know that we will need substantial upgrades in infrastructure to prevent our constituents in Garapan from the negative impacts of a development so large. This is not something I am willing to leave to chance."

"It is not clear to me that the current administration or the casino is interested in

Life & Style

Model-TV host Dickinson accuses Cosby of assault

NEW YORK (AP)—Model and TV host Janice Dickinson added her name to the women who have accused comic Bill Cosby of sexual assault.

In an “Entertainment Tonight” interview that aired Tuesday, Dickinson said that the 1982 incident occurred

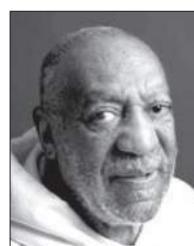
in Lake Tahoe, California, where he was appearing.

She told the TV newsmagazine that she wrote about the assault in her 2002 autobiography, “No Lifeguard on Duty: The Accidental Life of the World’s First Supermodel,” but that Cosby and his lawyers pressured her and the publisher to remove the details.

A call to Cosby’s publicist

seeking comment was not immediately returned.

In the interview, Dickinson said she met Cosby in Lake Tahoe at his urging after he said that he would help her with her singing career. They had met earlier when her agent had introduced them, hop-



Cosby

ing that she could get a job on “The Cosby Show.”

Dickinson said that after dinner, she and Cosby were in her hotel room and that he gave her some red wine and a pill. She told “Entertainment

Tonight” she had asked for a pill because she had been suffering

stomach pains.

“The next morning I woke up and I wasn’t wearing my pajamas and I remembered before I passed out I had been sexually assaulted by this man,” she said. She said she remembered Cosby dropping the robe he had been wearing and getting on top of her.

She said she never confronted Cosby about the incident.

“I’m doing this because it’s the right thing to do and this happened to me and this is a true story,” she said.

In the memoir, Dickinson described stopping at his hotel room door when he invited her in after dinner. She declined, claiming exhaustion.

“After all I’ve done for you, that’s what I get?” Dickinson quoted Cosby as saying. He then “gave me the dirtiest, meanest look in the world, stepped into

his suite, and slammed the door in my face,” she wrote.

Cosby, 77, who was never criminally charged in any case, settled a civil suit in 2006 with another woman over an alleged incident two years before.

Attention to the legendary entertainer’s past flared suddenly in recent weeks after another comic, Hannibal Buress, called Cosby a “rapist” during a Philadelphia performance. Two other women have emerged as accusers, including Barbara Bowman, who wrote an online Washington Post piece.

Cosby has remained silent, and his attorney, John P. Schmitt, issued a statement Sunday saying his client would not dignify “decade-old, discredited” claims of sexual abuse with a response. Schmitt later exempted the 2006 civil case from the blanket statement.

Lawyer: Tracy Morgan is battling severe brain injury

TRENTON, N.J. (AP)—Tracy Morgan is fighting to recover from a severe brain injury suffered in a highway crash more than five months ago, and it’s uncertain if he will be “the Tracy Morgan he once was,” his lawyer said Tuesday.

Benedict Morelli said the former “Saturday Night Live” and “30 Rock” star suffered a traumatic brain injury in the June 7 crash on the New Jersey Turnpike, in addition to a broken leg, nose and ribs.

“He’s fighting to get better, and if there’s a chance for him to be back to the Tracy Morgan he once was, he’s going to try to do that,” Morelli said. “But we just don’t know because of the severity of the injuries that he sustained and the fact that he had such a severe brain injury.”

Lawyers were in court in New Jersey for a scheduling conference in Morgan’s lawsuit against Bentonville, Arkansas-based Wal-Mart Stores Inc., whose truck was involved in the crash. Morgan wasn’t at Tuesday’s proceeding, during which lawyers met with the judge to settle on a schedule.

A Wal-Mart truck slammed into a limo van that was carrying Morgan and several friends on their way back from a show in Delaware. One person was killed, and three others were injured, two seriously. Morgan spent several weeks in a hospital and in rehab.

Morelli didn’t discuss specific aspects of Morgan’s condition but said he hasn’t fully recovered.

“When you have a traumatic brain injury it takes a very long time to find out how you’re going to do and how much you’re going to recover,” Morelli said. “You just don’t know. So that’s where he is. He’s still fighting and trying to live his life at the same time and trying to get better, and he’s just not better. We’re hoping and praying to get him back to where he was. But the jury’s out.”

A comedy series Morgan was to have begun filming in August for FX Network was put on hold after the accident.

Morgan sued for punitive and compensatory damages. In a response to the lawsuit filed in late September, Wal-Mart contended the victims’ injuries were partly due to the fact that they weren’t wearing seatbelts.

Attorneys representing Wal-Mart didn’t comment after Tuesday’s proceeding.

Georgia truck driver Kevin Roper, who is not named in Morgan’s lawsuit, was charged with death by auto and four counts of assault by auto in state court. Last Friday, he filed to have Morgan’s lawsuit delayed while that case proceeds. That matter is scheduled to be ruled on next month.

A preliminary investigation by the National Transportation Safety Board released in June said Roper was driving 65 mph in the minute before he slammed into the back of the van. The speed limit on that stretch of the New Jersey Turnpike is 55 mph but was lowered to 45 mph that night because of construction.

‘Mockingjay’ stars reflect on growing up together



In this Nov. 15, 2014 photo, cast members in “The Hunger Games: Mockingjay - Part 1” from left, Liam Hemsworth, Jennifer Lawrence and Josh Hutcherson pose for a portrait in New York.

NEW YORK (AP)—Sitting down to interview Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson and Liam Hemsworth, stars of the blockbuster “Hunger Games” franchise, feels a bit like hanging out with three siblings.

While Hutcherson ponders a question, Lawrence and Hemsworth are surreptitiously playing a game of hand-slap, Lawrence pulling her hand free just in time. When one of the guys says reflectively, “Maybe I was just an idiot,” Lawrence pipes up: “Yes, you ARE an idiot!” There are giggles, and a totally inside joke involving the phrase “My ears hurt,” spoken in baby voice. (Don’t ask.)

“I met my best friends in the world on this movie,” Lawrence says, turning serious, of Hutcherson and Hemsworth. “We love each other. They’re as close to me as my family, and in some ways they ARE my family.”

Lawrence, who plays Katniss Everdeen for the third time in “The Hunger Games: Mockingjay: Part 1,” opening Friday,

is known for being a straight shooter—and not just with a bow and arrow. And so when she talks about her co-stars, it sounds refreshingly nothing like canned Hollywood-speak, in which everyone professes how it was SO great working with everyone else.

Instead, the 24-year-old Oscar winner explains how she, Hutcherson and Hemsworth (22 and 24 respectively) grew up together on set over the past several years—and became famous together, though Lawrence’s star has risen the fastest.

“We all have the actor thing in common where we left home very early—I left home when I was 14,” Lawrence says. “And our lives changed together in a way that nobody else in the whole world understands.”

In fact, she says, just the night before, the trio attended a dinner—exhausted—and sat for the first half entirely silent, like families sometimes do. “People were thinking, they must not really like each other,” she says. Chuckles Hutcherson: “Yeah, they’re thinking

it’s all an act!” Adds Hemsworth: “You’ve got to be really close to not talk at all.”

Promoting the third film in the Suzanne Collins trilogy—filmmakers have split “Mockingjay” in two parts—has brought back familiar questions about parallels between the characters and the actors who play them. Katniss and Peeta Mellark (Hutcherson) are both thrust into dizzying fame in the first “Hunger Games” when they’re chosen to represent District 12 in the fight-to-the-death spectacle forced on them by the Capitol, ruled by shadowy President Snow (Donald Sutherland).

In the third movie, along with Gale (Hemsworth), they each figure in different ways in the rebellion spreading through the country of Panem.

“I always get kind of nervous when people make parallels,” says Lawrence. “(Katniss) led a rebellion that changed the world, and I’m just an actor telling people I need more lipstick or whatever.”

She does, though, under-

stand why people latch onto the “reluctant fame” idea, since she herself initially hesitated before accepting the role that catapulted her to global fame.

“We all had an idea of how big this was going to be, which is why I took a few days before I said yes, and really thought about what I wanted,” Lawrence says. “Saying yes to this was going to completely change my life.”

Hutcherson says he was oblivious. “I had to say I didn’t expect any of it,” he says of sudden stardom.

“You’re not as paranoid and neurotic as me,” Lawrence quips.

Lawrence, who has spoken bluntly and forcefully about privacy concerns, feels her co-stars need to be more security-conscious. “I recently changed my number and texted them, ‘Hi boys,’ and they answered back blah blah and didn’t even ask a security question!” she says, in mock disapproval.

“But I knew it was you,” protests Hemsworth. “Nobody else would text us, ‘Hi, boys!’”



Morgan

People mag names Hemsworth 'Sexiest Man Alive'

NEW YORK (AP)—People magazine has named Chris Hemsworth the “Sexiest Man Alive” of 2014, cheering the Australian actor’s rise as hammer-wielding, bone fide hunk in the “Thor” films.

‘Hunger Games’ stars dream up an alternate cast

Quick (AP)—If they were doing a “Hunger Games” remake, who should play the leading roles?

We recently posed the question to the franchise’s three young stars—Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson and Liam Hemsworth—and they came up with some entertaining answers.

Hemsworth, aka Gale Hawthorne, boldly going first: “I’d probably want Melissa McCarthy to play my part. (Laughter all around.) I just think she’s great and she would bring so much honesty and truth to the role.”

Lawrence, aka Katniss Everdeen, upping the ante for her character: “I feel like Keanu Reeves or Dwayne ‘The Rock’ Johnson could really bring the strength that I was lacking, and the agility. (Eager nods of approval.) But if I were going female I’d go with Bette Davis. And I guess the obvious choice would be Shailene Woodley. She’s proven that she could do it.”

Hutcherson, aka Peeta Mellark, trying to be more contemplative about who’d fill his role: “I would choose young Dustin Hoffman, if it’s possible to go back in time. As in, ‘The Graduate’ or ‘Marathon Man.’”

Hemsworth, sneaking one in at the buzzer: “Wait—I think Jim Carrey could also really be great as Gale.”

Hemsworth, who also starred as Formula One racer James Hunt in the Ron Howard-directed “Rush” and the “Star Trek” reboots, was unveiled as the winner on Tuesday’s “Jimmy Kimmel Live!”

When asked who he wanted to thank, Hemsworth told Kimmel his parents, “for putting this together.”

He joins a list of hunks with the honor, including Bradley Cooper, Ryan Reynolds, Brad Pitt, George Clooney, Patrick Swayze, Sean Connery, Ben Affleck, Channing Tatum and Adam Levine. Mel Gibson, another Australian, was the first in 1985.

The 31-year-old star of “Thor: The Dark World” and his 38-year-old wife, Elsa Pa-



tak of “Fast and Furious 6,” have three children. The actor’s younger brother, Liam, stars in the “The Hunger Games: Catching Fire.”

Chris Hemsworth told People that the award “brought me a couple of weeks of bragging rights” around the house and with his wife. “I can just say to her, ‘Now remember, this is what the people think, so I don’t need to do the dishes anymore, I don’t need to change nappies. I’m above that. I’ve made it now.’”

AP
In this July 26, 2014 file photo, Chris Hemsworth attends the Marvel press line at Comic-Con International in San Diego.

Rocky love: Letters by great women are auctioned

PARIS (AP)—An unprecedented collection of 1,500 documents from some of history’s greatest women is being auctioned in Paris, including everything from Catherine the Great’s imperious letter shunning her lover, to Brigitte Bardot’s plea to cancel the release of a song that ended up being banned in several countries owing to its sexual content.

The documents, which range from the profound to the banal, also include ones from Napoleon’s long-suffering wife Josephine, and a note to a teacher from Grace Kelly. Here are highlights of the extraordinary two-day sale, starting Tuesday.

CATHERINE OF ARAGON: SAVE MY MARRIAGE (AND YOUR CHURCH)

Catherine—the queen of England from 1509 until 1533, and the first of King Henry VIII’s six wives—fell out of favor with the fearsome monarch after she failed to produce a son and heir.

In the 1529 letter intended to

reach the pope, she argues: “I am completely innocent” and being cast aside “without cause.” She asks for Henry’s planned annulment to be blocked. She also warns—correctly, as it turns out—that Henry will try to split from Rome. It’s simply signed “Katherina.” After their divorce, which was not recognized by the pope, Henry sets up a separate Church of England, with himself as its head.

It sold Tuesday for 68,750 euros (\$86,000).

PRINCESS GRACE MAKES EXCUSES

When a royal’s daughter fails to do her homework, she doesn’t tell the teacher a dog ate it. Grace Patricia Kelly—the American actress who married Prince Rainier III to become the Princess of Monaco—wrote to her daughter Stephanie’s French teacher after the girl came up short in class. “Please excuse Stephanie for not having done her French lesson. She left her book at school, Wednesday.

Grace de Monaco.”

EDITH PIAF’S “LA VIE EN REHAB”

Dated Jan. 5, 1956, the bittersweet letter from singer Edith Piaf is a loving ode to her then-husband Jacques Pills from the clinic where she was undergoing detox after alcohol and morphine addictions. In it, the French cabaret singer of the famous signature song “La vie en Rose” reminds Pills that there will be good days ahead, when she gets released. “Lovely man, have confidence in me as you have always had and you will see it’s the good side in me that will win, by the end of the detoxification... you will see that things can start again!” Piaf died seven years later of liver cancer, aged 47.

CATHERINE THE GREAT: HANDS OFF MY EMPIRE

The famously amorous Catherine II of Russia, who was linked to the coup that killed her husband Peter III, is seen in this 1762 letter shunning her lover

Stanislas Auguste Poniatowski. He wanted to come to Russia and become her new husband, but he is warned to stay away. Why? The fearsome Catherine had another lover and no intention of letting her old flame return to her life or take over her empire. “You read my letters with very little attention. I’ve told you and repeated that I risk being assaulted from all sides if you put one foot back in Russia,” she says in the blunt letter.

It sold Tuesday for (EURO)17,500 (\$22,000).

BARDOT’S SACHS APPEAL

Blond bombshell Brigitte Bardot’s letter is a request to a record company to scrap the suggestive, sexually-provocative song “Je t’aime, Moi non Plus.” (“I Love You...Me Neither”) that she had recorded with Serge Gainsbourg. It was straining her marriage to Gunter Sachs. Written a day after the song was first broadcast in 1967 to Philips record company, the letter speaks of the “serious and grave personal reasons to not release under any circumstances” the

recording. The song was withdrawn and later recorded with Gainsbourg’s wife Jane Birkin to become one of the iconic hits of the 60s. Despite this, Bardot and Sachs still divorced in 1969.

JOSEPHINE IS UNDER NAPOLEON’S THUMB (AND QUILL)

Hardly anything remains of Empress Josephine’s letter to a friend, crossed out with aggressive ink scribbles by her domineering husband. The friend, Queen Charlotte of Wurtemberg, was apparently too politically crucial to receive heartfelt thoughts in writing. Napoleon left about 20 of the original words untouched, with Josephine’s hand nearly completely erased. According to manuscript specialist Thierry Bodin, “In this instance, Napoleon wanted to make a political union with the Queen Charlotte’s daughter, so he dictated what she could say. More broadly, it shows how women’s roles became more submissive in the 18th and 19th centuries.”

It sold Tuesday for (EURO)26,250 (\$33,000).

New girlfriend is eager to rid garage of ex-girlfriend’s stuff

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend, “Ron,” and I have been together for more than a year, and we now live together. His garage is full to overflowing with his ex-girlfriend’s belongings. She apparently left him and all her stuff—including her four cats—to marry some guy she met online. She no longer lives in this country.

I’m fine with taking care of the cats; they are innocent and I love them. However, I want her stuff out of the garage. Ron thinks it’s “the right thing to do” to keep it until she can arrange for it to be moved to her new place.

Abby, it has been a year and a half! She’s not going to move this stuff. I want to donate it or trash it as appropriate, and I don’t think legally we have any responsibility to tell her or ask her before we do. What do you think?

WANTS IT GONE IN OKLAHOMA

DEAR WANTS IT GONE: It would be neither appropriate nor kind to do anything to Ron’s ex-girlfriend’s belongings without warning. Ron should contact her, inform her that he wants to use his garage for the purpose it is intended, and ask if she wants the items she left to be disposed of or put into storage at her expense. He should allow a reasonable time for her to respond before doing anything, and you should distance yourself from the process.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I have a friend with one annoying habit. Whenever we have a party, she’ll invite friends without asking first, or

by saying, “I told them it was OK to come.” It creates a problem because we plan our parties for a certain number of guests, and now there are two, three, sometimes even four more—often on short notice.

I like her friends, but they are not close friends of mine. Sometimes I just would like to have an intimate gathering with four to six people.

At my last gathering she invited not only her friends but also their children. It went from an intimate brunch for six to a party of 12. We even had to set up a second table.

How can I get her to stop, short of not inviting her to any more of our parties? I feel stuck in a situation that no matter what I do, I’m going to P.O. somebody. Any suggestions?

PARTY PLANNER IN GEORGIA

DEAR PARTY PLANNER: Your “friend” has a lot of nerve and no manners. She appears to be using you to entertain her other friends, which is not only rude, but also extremely presumptuous. She will continue treating you this way until you call a halt by telling her to cut it out because you don’t like it. If she can’t respect your wishes after that, see her only on a one-on-one basis.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I know someone who receives Social Security for her disabled children. She uses that money to feed a slot machine. Those children could have so many opportunities if their money

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



was used appropriately and it’s going down the drain. What can I do about it? It saddens me.

THINKING ABOUT THE KIDS

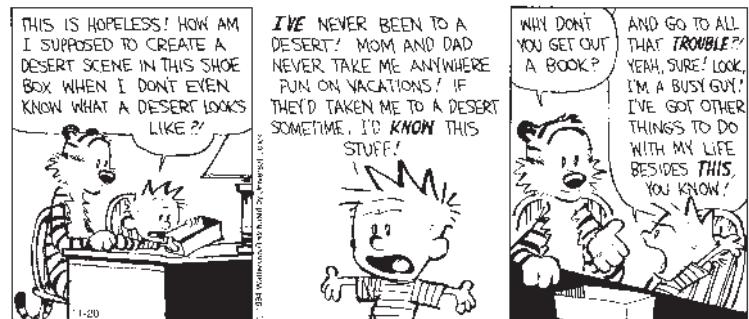
DEAR THINKING ABOUT THE KIDS: It appears the woman is addicted to gambling. What she’s doing may “sadden” you, but as a taxpaying American it infuriates me because her children aren’t getting the assistance that money is meant to provide. So please, pick up the phone, call the Department of Children’s Services and clue them in to what’s happening. I’m betting they’ll be interested.

■■■

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in “The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It.” To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



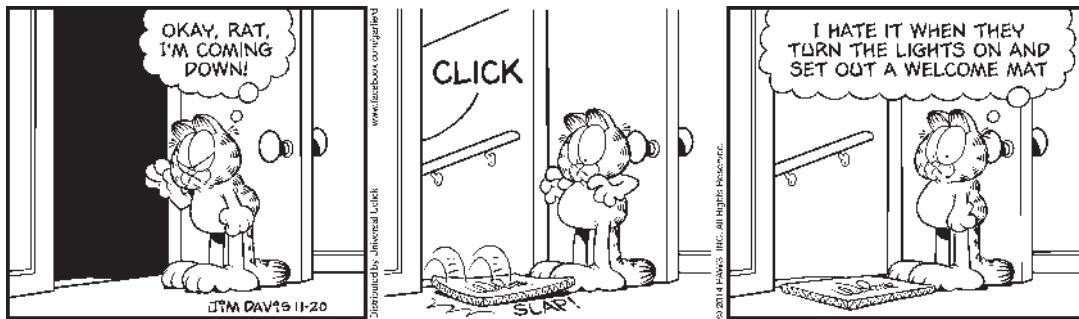
By Bill Watterson

Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

Garfield®



By Jim Davis

The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

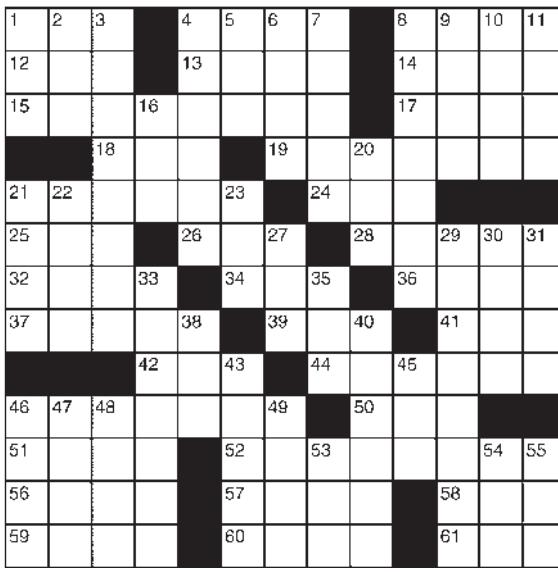
By Eugene Sheffer

| ACROSS | 37 | Follow your nose | 61 | Pair | 16 | Squid squirt |
|--------------------------|----|--------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|-------|-------------------|
| 1 Emmy winner Parsons | 39 | Cheery expression? | 20 | De- pressed | 21 | Family- biz abbr. |
| 4 Avoid | 41 | Morning moisture | 2 Lemieux | millieu | 22 | Peregrinate |
| 8 Cry | 42 | — Lingus predeces- | 3 So-so | 4 Act parts | 23 | Aye canceler |
| 12 Expert | 44 | Gosor | 5 Carpool lane abbr. | 5 Carpoo | 27 | Kids' card game |
| 13 De Gaulle | 46 | Tense | 6 Hexagonal state | 7 Hosiery material | 29 | Olympic champ |
| 14 English river | 50 | Four qts. | 7 | Middle name of Thomas Wilson | 30 | State |
| 15 Like a Ren-Fest | 51 | Needle case | 8 | Conti- nental currency | 31 | Mr. Gingrich |
| 17 Evange- list Roberts | 52 | Intern's study | 9 | Doggerelist | 33 | Sub- servient |
| 18 Hostel | 56 | Individu- als | 10 | Birthright Odgen | 35 | Crazed |
| 19 Not the "me too" type | 57 | Eastern potentate | 11 | Strahan barterer | 38 | Zodiac cat |
| 21 Shattered | 58 | Moment | 12 | Hide | 40 | Exodus |
| 24 Neither mate | 59 | Doggerelist | 13 | Author Godden | 43 | Author |
| 25 Sinbad's bird | 60 | Odgen | 14 | All. coun- terpart | 45 | Goddess |
| 26 Wit- nessed | | co-host | 15 | 46 Night light | 46 | Night |
| 28 Genesis 2:22 creation | | | 16 | 47 Europe's highest active volcano | 47 | Europe's |
| 32 Regatta props | | | 48 | Regrets | 48 | Regrets |
| 34 Thanksgiving veggie | | | 49 | Big rig | 53 | Party bowlful |
| 36 "Only Just Begun" | | | 50 | Fresh | 54 | Fresh |
| | | | | 55 | Green | 55 |

Solution time: 24 mins.



Yesterday's answer 11-20

**STUMPED?**

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Ashley Fink, 28; Dan Byrd, 29; Joel McHale, 43; Bo Derek, 58.

Happy Birthday: Enthusiasm is a good thing, but try to shield against mental, emotional or physical obsessions or attractions. Stick to what's important to you and make changes that are practical. Leave wiggle room just in case you change your mind or your direction. It's best to follow the path that gives you the option to be unique and to follow your heart. Your numbers are 5, 12, 18, 26, 32, 38, 49.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Take on more work and add your own unique touches to whatever you do, and you will impress others and be encouraged to continue. Investing in something you want to pursue will lead to greater involvement with institutions. **★★★**

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Take a stance and do your thing. You can turn an idea you have into a prosperous venture. A partnership will offer more than you anticipate. Do the work yourself and save cash. How you handle others will determine your success. **★★★**

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Love can lead to confusion. Consider the consequences if you mix business with pleasure. Don't make personal or physical changes based on secondhand information. Add extra detail to any job you do to ensure security and success. **★★★**

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't be afraid of making a move, joining a group or expressing yourself. You will entice

others to see things your way. Work situations will lean in your favor if you are passionate about what you do. A partnership will undergo positive change. **★★★★★**

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Expect to face opposition. Keep your conversations to the point. Don't leave room for error or make impossible promises. Take a closer look inward and consider how to look and be your best. Protect your possessions and your health. **★★**

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You can make changes at home or to your location if you look into job prospects that offer a better income. Expect someone to complain about whatever decision you make. Do what works for you. A change will improve your social life. **★★**

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Problems at home must not interfere with your job. A change with regard to an important relationship may be upsetting, but in the end it will be good for you. Don't trust anyone with your personal secrets. Keep the peace. **★★★**

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Take a stance and do your thing. You can turn an idea you have into a prosperous venture. A partnership will offer more than you anticipate. Do the work yourself and save cash. How you handle others will determine your success. **★★★**

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Love can lead to confusion. Consider the consequences if you mix business with pleasure. Don't make personal or physical changes based on secondhand information. Add extra detail to any job you do to ensure security and success. **★★★**

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EUGENIA LAST
THE LAST WORD
IN ASTROLOGY

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tiate something that you will have trouble finishing. Make the right choices in the appropriate order. **★★**

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): A unique approach to professional changes should be put into play. Taking part in events related to your chosen field will lead to an opportunity. Get an offer in writing or you will have to fight for the deal initially offered. **★★★**

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Be careful if you plan to represent or speak on behalf of someone else. Misunderstandings are apparent and will put you in a precarious position. Moving forward will be easy if you follow proper procedures. Don't rock the boat. **★★**

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Pursue your goals wholeheartedly. You will get your way if you act quickly and follow through. Don't let a personal issue cloud your vision. Protect against mishaps that can lead to injury or illness. Financial gain is in the stars. **★★★★★**

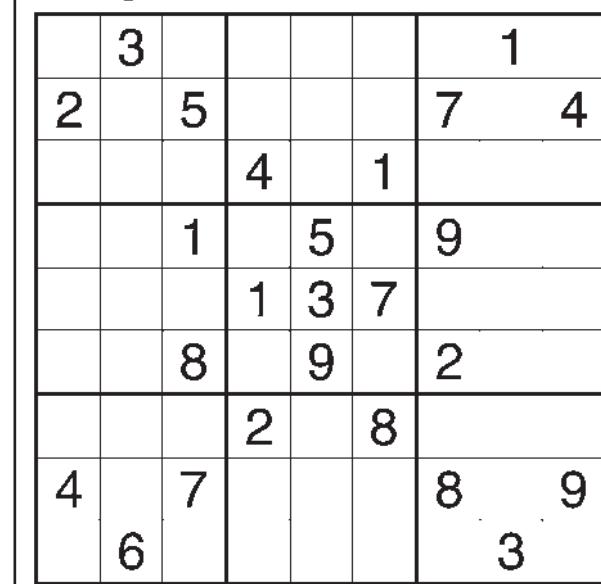
Birthday Baby: You are unpredictable, clever and outgoing. You are generous and unique.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | 1 | 9 | 3 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 4 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 9 |
| 5 | 6 | 8 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 2 |
| 9 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 4 |
| 6 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 5 | 2 | 8 |
| 1 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 9 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 3 |
| 2 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 1 |
| 3 | 4 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 5 |

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

SHARKS

R D D A E H R E M M A H O R N
O E E O S W H I T E T I P E B
I N T H G T I T F R I L L E D
V T E A E F R L E G N A G L T
A I C E W A I E D A H G S B S
H C T P V H R S A W S N E I A
E L R E U I S I H M I E V X O
B E L N V E I E N F L Z R E C
Y S T E S N G U R G L I E L O
G E R R A I N L W F A S N F L
R S U E Y R A B E Q S P E E D
E N C K E A L S K M R T J S W
N O L G I M S M A K O G A A A
E I I K C A B W A S D N W L R
S T N G E S O N P R A H S T F

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Angel, Behavior, Blue, Coast, Cold, Denticles, Detect, Dogfish, Dorsal, Dwarf, Eggs, Energy, Fins, Flat, Flexible, Freshwater, Frilled, Grow, Hammerhead, Hearing, Horn, Hunter, Jaws, Lemon, Makro, Marine, Nerves, Nurse, Ocean, Prey, Rivers, Salt, Sawback, Sharpnose, Signals, Slinky, Size, Speed, Streamline, Teeth, Tiger, Travel, Whale, Whitetip, Wild
Yesterday's Answer: Hot Dogs

Treasury 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 or 18 can be purchased online in time for the holidays at www.WonderWordBooks.com. Contains 130 puzzles.

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DBA: CLUB MERMAID

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JAPAN ENTERPRISES CORP.

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
(10) WAITRESS

2-3 years experience as a waitress in a Night Bar or an Entertainment Business.

Other Qualifications:

- At least 21-25 years old with pleasing personality.
- Full Time with flexible working hours.
- Salary: \$6.05/hr
- Preferably can speak Japanese language fluently.

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3 (Three) Journeyman Plumber

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WHATZIT Solution: Sixty-four thousand dollar question

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|-----------|--------------------|
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| | \$45 |

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Duties: Assists w/ collection, analysis, interpretation, doc. & mgmt. of data collected under Pacific Islands Regional Commercial Fisheries Bio-Sampling Prog. & Western Pacific Fisheries Info. Network. Data collection, stat. analysis, develops improved field methods & analytical procedures & surveys. Assists in development, doc. & standardization of fishing surveys, coordination of data collection efforts & improvement of catch & effort data. Troubleshoots & helps resolve database & field logistics issues.

Requires: Bachelor's in Biology, Resource or Fisheries Science or rel. fld. (Associate's in Ecology, Marine Biology or Resource Mgmt. Science w/ add'l 3-5 yrs. exper. in marine fisheries monitoring, assessment or mgmt. may sub.). 3-5 yrs. exper. working w/ fisheries data, databases & fisheries stats. Exper. working w/ fishermen or fishing industry &/or prev. cultural exper. living in Pacific Island locale. Knowl. of facility w/ data collected w/in territorial fisheries incl. catch & effort est. & analysis of monitoring data. Ability to use PC. Ability to understand & work w/in local culture & earn trust & respect of agency staff, local island fishing industry & other constituents. Ability to write reports & communicate complex ideas to layman. Valid driver's license. Able to climb or swim to reach locations. **Post Offer/Emp. Req.:** Meet US DOC, NOAA security req. for working in fed. Facility (incl. being fingerprinted & fed. bg. chk.).

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 01-2015

Opening date: November 17, 2014 Closing date: December 5, 2014

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) announces the following job vacancy:

Position: (1) Staff Engineer (Saipan)
(1) Executive/Board Secretary

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Failure to provide any of the required documents may result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents is no later than 4:30 p.m., December 5, 2014.

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form during regular working hours at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Saipan International Airport, Arrival Wing. For more information, please contact the CPA HR Administrator Ms. Rita Omar, by email at rita.omar@cpa.gov.mp or by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

/s/MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director

NFL suspends Peterson for at least rest of season



MINNEAPOLIS

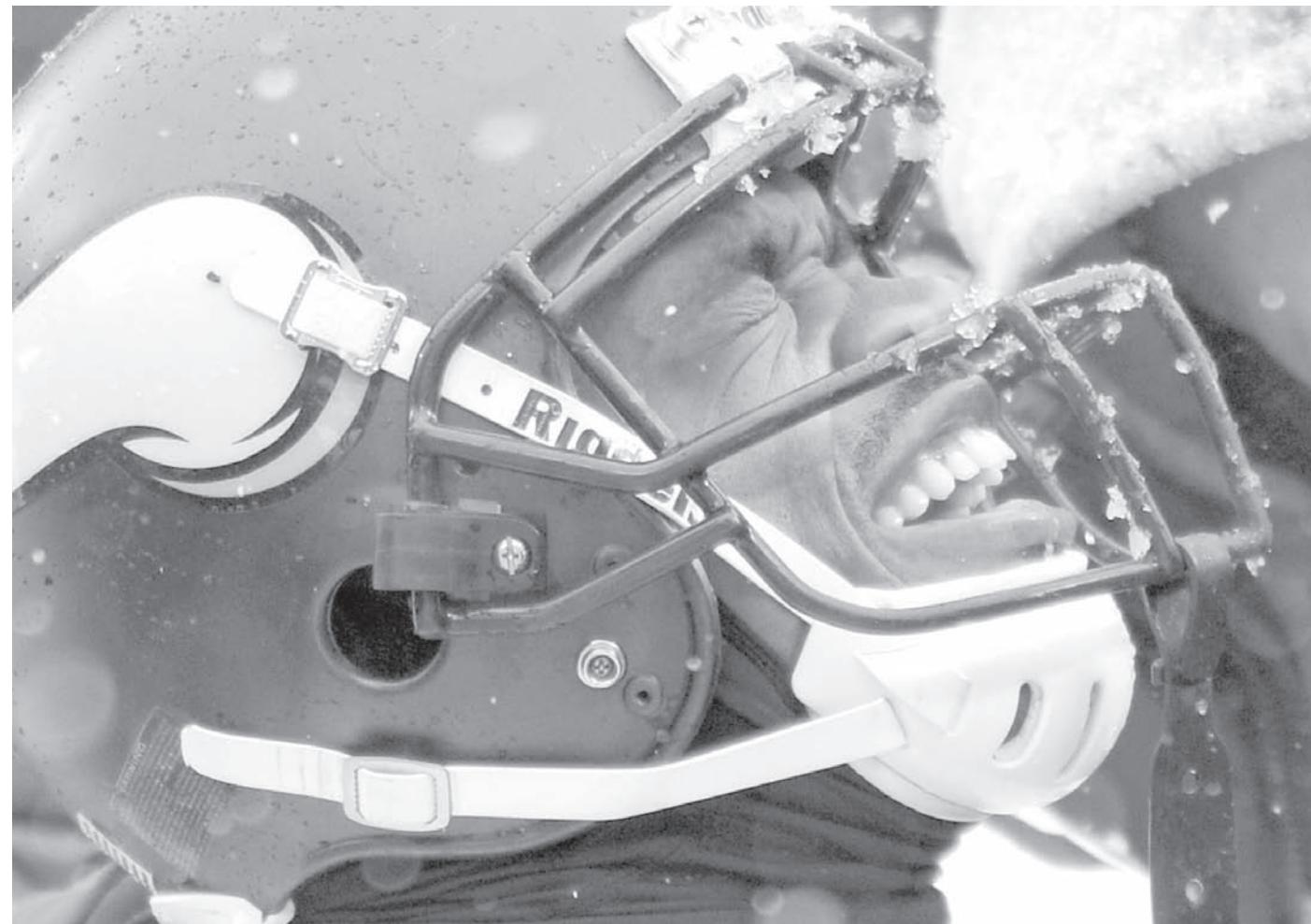
(AP)—Adrian Peterson's dispute with the NFL reached another level when the league suspended Minnesota's star running back without pay for at least the rest of the season.

As his representatives initiated an appeal, Peterson remained at the center of an escalating argument between the league and the NFL Players Association over the player discipline process.

Commissioner Roger Goodell told Peterson on Tuesday he will not be considered for reinstatement before April 15 for his violation of the NFL personal conduct policy. Peterson pleaded no contest Nov. 4 to misdemeanor reckless assault in Texas for injuries to his 4-year-old son with a wooden switch.

The NFLPA quickly called for a neutral arbitrator to handle an appeal and sharply rebuked the league for what it labeled as inconsistency and unfairness in determining the discipline. The NFL's words were even stronger, with a nearly 1,600-word statement spelling out the conditions for Peterson's return to the field and describing the reasons for the punishment.

The NFL said Peterson would stay on the special exempt list and continue to be paid during the appeal process, but the union's attempt to at least temporarily reinstate him failed. The grievance filed against the league last week was overturned Tuesday by the arbitrator who heard the arguments, according to a person with knowledge of the situation. The person spoke to The Associated Press on con-



This Dec. 8, 2013, file photo shows Minnesota Vikings running back Adrian Peterson reacting as he is tended to after injuring his ankle on a play in the second quarter of an NFL football game against the Baltimore Ravens in Baltimore. The NFL suspended Adrian Peterson without pay for at least the remainder of the season. AP

dition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the situation.

Even if Peterson were to win a shorter suspension with an appeal, the Vikings actually playing him would be an implausible scenario given the heat they have taken and the long time Peterson has been away from the team. The Vikings have six games left and host the Green Bay Packers on Sunday.

The Vikings issued only a brief statement: "We respect the league's decision and will have no further comment at this time."

Fullback Jerome Felton said

on Twitter that characterizing his feelings on the NFL's decision as a disagreement would be the "understatement of the year." In Pittsburgh, Steelers safety Mike Mitchell questioned the system that gives Goodell executive power on player discipline.

"I'm not just trying to bash him or come down on him, but I think players would feel better if he wasn't just judge, jury and executioner," Mitchell said.

Peterson has said he intended no harm to his 4-year-old son, only discipline. Peterson was on a special exempt list at the sole

discretion of Goodell, essentially paid leave while the case went through the legal system.

The NFLPA said Peterson was told that would count as time served toward a suspension, citing an unidentified NFL executive. League spokesman Brian McCarthy said the stay on the exempt list was taken into account, citing "aggravating circumstances" for the extended suspension.

Goodell announced Aug. 28 tougher punishment for players involved with domestic violence. That action stemmed from a torrent of criticism for

the initial leniency toward Baltimore Ravens running back Ray Rice following a caught-on-camera knockout punch of the woman who is now his wife. Rice was later suspended indefinitely and recently had his appeal heard by an arbitrator.

According to the enhanced policy, first offenses of assault, battery or domestic violence bring a six-game suspension.

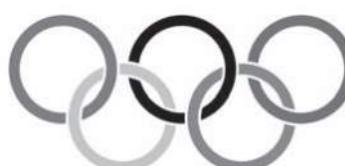
Goodell's letter to Peterson cited the "aggravating circumstance," pointing to the child's age and the significant physical difference between him and his son.

The injuries to the boy occurred in May. Peterson was indicted in September, a few days after the season opener. The Vikings put him on the inactive list for the next game. The day after, they announced he would resume playing until completion of his due process in court.

But with the Rice backlash as a backdrop, Peterson, the Vikings and the NFL were inundated by protests as corporations canceled sponsorships. The Vikings relented and less than two days later he was placed on the exempt list.

The union has accused the league of overstepping bounds spelled out in the collective bargaining agreement.

IOC opens door to joint bids and new sports events



LAUSANNE, Switzerland

(AP)—Breaking from the tradition of awarding the Olympics only to a single host city, the IOC is opening the door to possible wider bids, including bids from an entire country, joint bids from more than one city and even the possibility of events held in more than one country.

The possibility of new types of bids was among the 40 recommendations released Tuesday as part of International Olympic Committee President Thomas Bach's reform agenda, his drive to make the bidding process and the games themselves more attractive and less costly.

"We want to create more diversity in the candidatures," Bach told a small group of reporters at the Olympic Museum in Lausanne. "There is no one-size-fits-all solution."

Under the proposals, the IOC would allow "the organization of entire sports and disciplines

outside the host city or, in exceptional cases, outside the host country notably for reasons of geography and sustainability."

That would be a first for the Summer Games. The IOC rules already allow for events to be held in a bordering country for the Winter Games.

Bach's proposals also include scrapping the current limit of 28 sports for the Summer Games to allow for new events to come in while maintaining a limit of 10,500 athletes and 310 medal events. For the Winter Games, the proposed limit is 2,900 athletes and 100 medal events.

The proposals would allow host cities to propose the inclusion of one or more events for their games - a move which would clear the way for baseball and softball to be included in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

Both sports were dropped from the Olympics after the 2008 Beijing Games, but are highly

popular in Japan.

The package also includes measures for revamping the bid process to make it more of a partnership with candidates, creating a digital Olympic television channel to promote Olympic sports in the years between the games, and including language on non-discrimination on sexual orientation in the Olympic Charter and host city contract.

The move to change the wording of the IOC's Principle 6 follows the international outcry that erupted before the 2014 Winter Games in Sochi over a Russian law prohibiting gay "propaganda."

The proposed new clause states: "The enjoyment of the rights and freedoms set forth in the Olympic Charter shall be secured without discrimination

of any kind, such as race, color, sex, sexual orientation, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status."

The reforms, called "Olympic Agenda 2020," will be put to a vote by the full IOC at a special session in Monaco on Dec. 8-9. Barring any surprise, most or all the recommendations are expected to be passed.

"It's like a jigsaw puzzle," Bach said.

The pressure for change to the bidding process has grown following the troubled race for the 2022 Winter Games. Scared off by the reported \$51 billion associated with the Sochi Games, several cities pulled out of the bidding, leaving only Beijing and Almaty, Kazakhstan, in the running.

"More must be done to al-

leviate concerns regarding the costs and impacts of hosting the Olympic Games," the IOC document said.

The new bid process will go

into effect for the race for the 2024 Summer Olympics. The United States, which hasn't hosted the Summer Games since 1996 in Atlanta, would be considered an early favorite if decides to bid. The U.S. Olympic Committee is weighing a possible bid from either Boston, Los Angeles, San Francisco or Washington. Other potential contenders include Paris, Rome, and Hamburg or Berlin in Germany.

In the Summer Olympics, some events - such as sailing and many of the preliminary-round football matches - are already held outside host cities. But Bach said the IOC is now ready to open the chance for country-wide and joint bids.

"In the Summer Games, it's more about small or neighbor-

ing countries where you have distances which are manageable and feasible," he said. "We want to have more diversity, to give smaller countries the opportunity to organize games."

There has been a precedent for holding events outside the host country. Because of quarantine laws in Australia, the equestrian competition for the 1956 Melbourne Olympics was held in Stockholm.

Bach stressed there still should be a "main organizing city" with an athletes village that serves as the center of the Olympic experience.

"We want the games with the unity of time, place and action," he said.

The recommendations also include a broad review of the Youth Olympics, which debuted in Singapore in 2010. The Youth Games would be moved to non-Olympic years, meaning the 4th Summer Youth Games would be switched from 2022 to 2023.

Kobe leads struggling Lakers past Hawks



ATLANTA (AP)—Kobe Bryant scored 28 points and the Los Angeles Lakers won for only the second time this season, beating the Atlanta Hawks 114-109 Tuesday night.

Bryant's biggest shot came with 1:11 remaining, when he backed in against Thabo Sefolosha and made a fadeaway jumper despite being fouled. Bryant slapped hands with a fan on the front row and completed the three-point play, giving the Lakers a 108-102 lead.

The Hawks had a chance to force overtime after the Lakers (2-9) failed to put it away at the line. But Los Angeles smothered long-range threat Kyle Korver, leaving Pero Antic to take an open 3-pointer. It clanked off the rim and the Lakers gobbled up the loose ball to seal the victory.

Paul Millsap led Atlanta with 29 points.

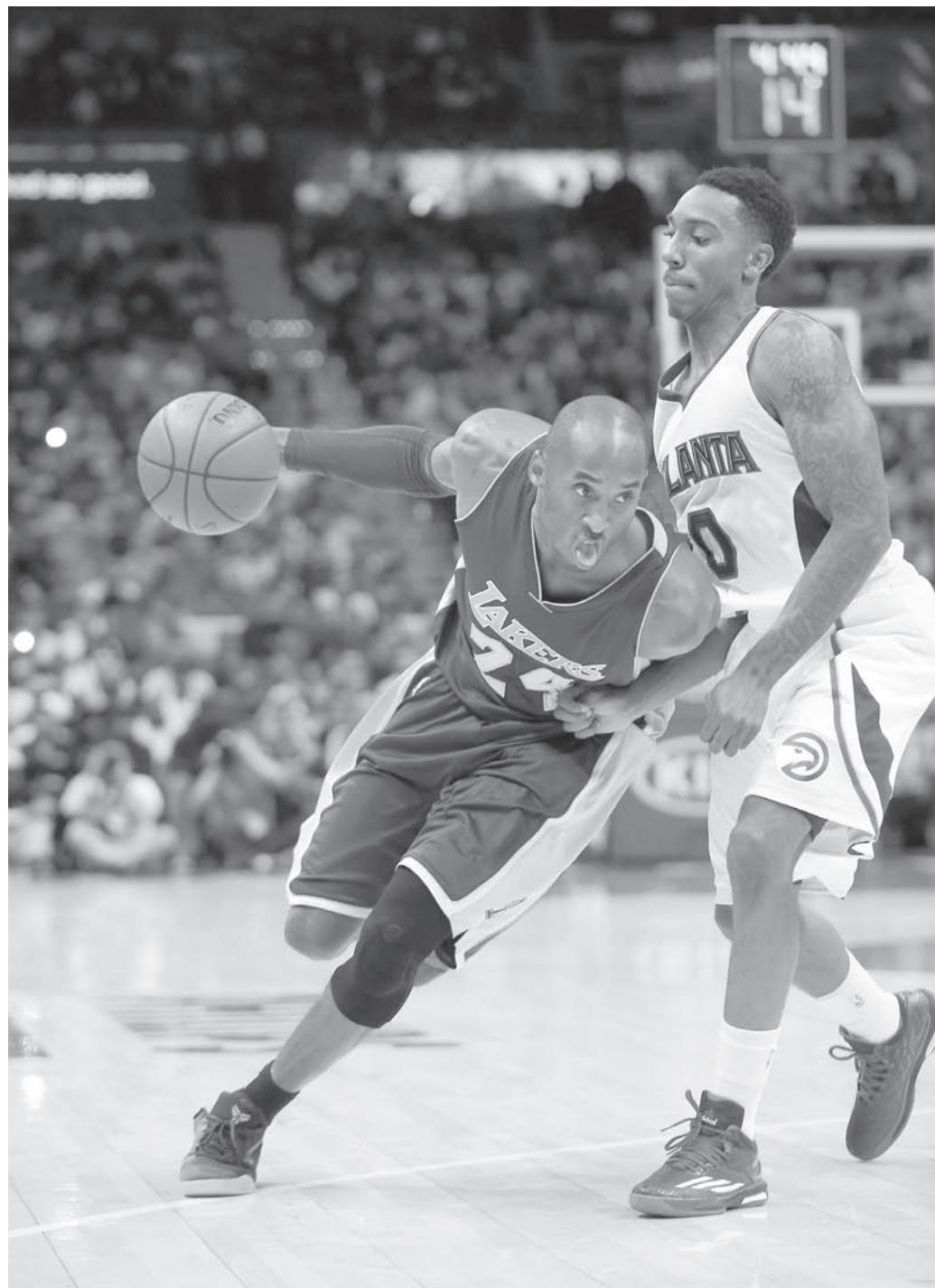
Carlos Boozer added 20 points for the Lakers, and Nick Young, coming back from a thumb injury, had 17 in his first game of the season.

Jeff Teague scored 23 for the Hawks, who lost for the first time at home.

In the first half, the Lakers hardly looked like a team that had lost nine of its first 10 games, putting up a season high for points in a half while racing to a 67-52 lead. Bryant scored 19 points and Boozer chipped in with 18, including a tip-in just ahead of the halftime buzzer.

Los Angeles shot 61 percent (27 of 44) from the field and outrebounded the Hawks 22-15, leading to a 10-3 edge in second-chance points.

The Hawks started the second half with a 13-0 run but never could come all the way back from the big deficit. Down the stretch, the Lakers made enough plays to snap a four-game losing streak.



AP
Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant (24) drives against Atlanta Hawks guard Jeff Teague (0) in the second half of an NBA basketball game Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2014, in Atlanta. Los Angeles won 114-109.

13 points and 11 assists, and Jason Thompson finished with 15 points and nine rebounds.

Evans, who had 11 fourth-quarter points, made an off-balance shot over Cousins from close range and Davis converted one of two free throws, giving New Orleans a 103-97 lead with 28.8 seconds to go.

The Pelicans trailed 54-45 at halftime, but Davis and Anderson led the way during the big third period. Davis got free numerous times inside and had 10 points and

Bucks 117, Knicks 113

In Milwaukee, Ersan Ilyasova had 20 points, and the rebuilding Milwaukee Bucks climbed above .500 for the first time in more than a year by fending off the New York Knicks for a 117-113 victory Tuesday night.

Zaza Pachulia added season highs of 14 points and 13 rebounds for the Bucks, who improved to 6-5 on the year. It was the first time the team had a

winning record since March 20, 2013, when it was 34-33.

New York cut a 26-point deficit to 115-113 with 7.9 seconds left on a dunk off a baseline move by Carmelo Anthony.

Jerryd Bayless responded with two free throws for Milwaukee. He went 5 for 6 at the line in the final 26 seconds.

A desperation 3 at the buzzer by Tim Hardaway Jr. glanced off harmlessly off the rim. Anthony finished with 26 points, while Hardaway Jr. had 24.

The balanced Bucks had seven players score in double figures.

Jazz 98, Thunder 81

In Salt Lake City, the Utah Jazz seemed to be sleepwalking against the undermanned Oklahoma City Thunder. It took an outburst from their rookie coach to wake them up.

After seeing his team trail by as many as 17 points in the first half, Quin Snyder stormed past half-court and yelled at the officials, getting a technical foul.

He then turned to his own team and shouted, "Wake up!"

Alec Burks marshaled the response with 20 points and a career-high 14 rebounds to lead the Utah Jazz to a 98-81 win over the reeling Thunder on Tuesday night.

Butler, A's reach 3-year, \$30M deal



OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—

Free agent designated hitter Billy Butler and the Oakland Athletics have agreed to a \$30 million, three-year contract, a person with knowledge of the negotiations said Tuesday night.

DeMarcus Cousins had 24 points and 17 rebounds for Sacramento, which dropped to 3-2 at home. Darren Collison added

Ryan Anderson hit four 3-pointers and scored 22 points for the Pelicans, who outscored the Kings 31-15 in the third. Tyreke Evans had 18 points, and Eric Gordon scored 17.

In his guest column, Woods said of Jenkins, "Frustration or resentment because I have not been more available to him should not give him a license for an underhanded attack on me as an athlete, as a professional and as a person."

"Good-natured satire is one thing, but no fair-minded writer would put someone in the position of having to publicly deny that he mistreats his friends, takes pleasure in firing people and stiffs on tips - and a lot of other slurs, too."

"I guess Golf Digest's editors believe this is a good way to sell more magazines," Woods wrote. "I'll bet their readers don't think so. Funny they didn't think this poorly of me when I worked with the magazine. I have to say I was surprised when I saw this piece came from Jenkins, who is one of the most distinguished golf writers out there."

Woods said he has let "plenty of things slide" during his career, but not this one.

"The sheer nastiness of this attack, the photos and how it put false words in my mouth just had to be confronted," he said.

Oakland used several players at first base this year, including catcher Stephen Vogt when he was dealing with a foot injury that required surgery after the season.

A steady and productive hitter for most of his career, the 28-year-old Butler is coming off a down season. He batted .271 with nine home runs and 66 RBIs in 151 games this year, 108 of those as a DH.

Before that, he played at least 158 games in each of the five previous years, including all 162 in 2013.

Butler's best season was 2012, when he batted .313 with 29 homers and 107 RBIs. He made the All-Star team that year, when the game was played in Kansas City.

He dropped off to 15 homers and 82 RBIs in 2013, then struggled at the plate this year.

As the Royals chased a play-

off berth during the stretch run, he was regularly held out by manager Ned Yost in late September.

Once the Royals qualified for the playoffs, though, Butler returned to the lineup.

In his first postseason, he hit .262 (11 for 42) with eight RBIs, three doubles and a stolen base in 13 games as Kansas City won its first pennant since 1985.

Woods blasts satirical Golf Digest article



NEW YORK (AP)—Tiger Woods criticized Hall of Fame golf writer Dan Jenkins on Tuesday for a parody in which Jenkins fakes an interview with him and covers topics from his reputation as a bad tipper to his failed marriage to his six-year drought in the majors.

The online headline of the Golf Digest column is "My (Fake) Interview with Tiger," with an asterisk to add, "Or how it plays out in my mind." The print edition of the magazine has "fake" in parentheses on the cover, but not in the headline above the column.

Woods rarely goes public with his criticism of stories written about him. But on Tuesday, he wrote a guest column for Derek Jeter's new website, <http://www.theplayerstribune.com>, which is a forum for athletes to connect

directly with fans. The title of Woods' column was "Not True, Not Funny."

He said the fake interview "fails as parody, and is really more like grudge-fueled piece of character assassination."

Jenkins, who has been cov-

ering the majors for more than 60 years, was inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame in 2011. While he has covered all the greats dating to Ben Hogan, he never was granted a private interview with the 14-time major champion early in Woods' career.

"I like to think I have a good sense of humor, and that I'm more than willing to laugh at myself," Woods wrote. "I've been playing golf for a long time, 20 years on the PGA Tour. I've given lots of interviews to journalists in all that time, more than I could count, and some

have been good and some not so much. ... But this concocted article was below the belt."

"Good-natured satire is one thing, but no fair-minded writer would put someone in the position of having to publicly deny that he mistreats his friends, takes pleasure in firing people and stiffs on tips - and a lot of other slurs, too."

Jenkins said on Twitter after Woods' response, "My next column for Tiger: defining parody and satire. I thought I let him off easy." He declined further comment.

Woods was a playing editor for Golf Digest for 13 years, a relationship that began after his historic victory in the 1997 Masters. Woods and the magazine ended the deal in January 2011 when they couldn't agree on how many hours Woods should devote.

In his guest column, Woods said of Jenkins, "Frustration or resentment because I have not been more available to him should not give him a license for an underhanded attack on me as an athlete, as a professional and as a person."

"I guess Golf Digest's editors believe this is a good way to sell more magazines," Woods wrote. "I'll bet their readers don't think so. Funny they didn't think this poorly of me when I worked with the magazine. I have to say I was surprised when I saw this piece came from Jenkins, who is one of the most distinguished golf writers out there."

Woods said he has let "plenty of things slide" during his career, but not this one.

"The sheer nastiness of this attack, the photos and how it put false words in my mouth just had to be confronted," he said.

Vicious Darties claim Ladies crown in SEDA league

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



The Sand Juvy Vicious Darties drew a bye on the final play date but managed to collect enough wins in the past games to claim the Ladies division crown in the 2014 Bud Light Saipan Electronic Darts Association League.

The Darties compiled a 90-60 record in the seven-team field, three wins ahead of runner-up Jokers Kitty Kats' 87-63 slate. The Kitty Kats needed a 14-1 or a 15-0 decision over the Smoke Pub Ladies Bull-It (65-85) to grab the top spot from the Darties, but only managed a 10-5 win.

The Naked Fish Dartin Divas finished third (82-68) after suffering a 9-6 defeat at the hands of the cellar-dwelling Jokers G-Side Shooters (71-84). The Route33 Avengers (69-81) tripped the Smoke Pub Mixed Nutz (76-89), 9-6, in the other match.

Fanihi and Flame Tree division leaders Smoke Pub D' Mekaniks and Naked Fish Na'Gupu will try to seal their respective title bids Thursday night.

The Mekaniks are on top in

the Fanihi division with a 125-55 mark, followed closely by Sand Juvy Put3ska (119-61). Na'Gupu (1-7-73) aims to foil sister team's Ridin' Dartty's (103-77) own title bid in the Flame Tree league.

The Mekaniks takes on the VFW Warriors while Put3ska battles the Smoke Pub Destroyers in the Fanihi division. In the Flame Tree class, Na'Gupu clashes with Team Figa and the Ridin' Darryt collides with Oneshot.

The final games in the Masters division will be played on Nov. 26, however, the Destroyers have sealed the crown as early as two weeks ago. They finished the season with a 130-74 record against the 160-98 slate of sister team TRA-Bull Makerz.

Yesterday was the last set of games in the Kingfisher division with the Jokers Latte Darts (129-51) and Route33 Chagi Fan (123-57) contending for the title. The A (Nov. 24 and Dec. 1), Tuesday (Nov. 25 and Dec. 2) and Chichirika (Nov. 26 and Dec. 3) divisions still have two weeks left.

Latest results in the Chichirika division have the Spartans cruising to a 12-3 win over the Snipers; Ta Chagi completing an 11-4 crushing

of Blue Koi; the Disciples and Feelin' Lucky each scoring 9-6 decisions over Bull-It and Hit 'Em Up; and the Breakers escaping with an 8-7 victory against Jump It.

In the Tuesday B, High On Darts thrashed the Dartaholics, 14-1; the Dabarkads tripped the Snipers, 13-2; Marupok trounced the Mechanics, 9-6; and Mixblood squeezed out an 8-7 decision over Fearless.

The Predators ripped the

Bud Brothers, 14-3; the Ridin' Darryt pounded the Proofers, 13-4; the Outlawz each pulled off 11-6 wins over Sakude and Comatose; and the Mafia tripped Comatose, 9-8, in the A division.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Sand Juvy Vicious Darties players pose for a photo during a break in their game in the Ladies Division of the 2014 Bud Light Saipan Electronic Darts Association League.



KFC eases past Ol'Aces for third win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

BANMI Kentucky Fried Chicken bagged its third win in the U18 division of the 2014 BANMI Youth League after downing the Ol'Aces, 64-51, last Tuesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Dixon Kwon towed KFC to the 13-point win after firing a game-high 24 markers. The lefty scored in each of the four quarters to lead KFC. He started slow, making 3 points in the first period, had 6 and 7 in the next two quarters, and saved his best

for last, tallying 6 in the fourth.

Shane Deleon Guerrero backed Kwon up, adding 10 points, while three other KFC players combined for 20 more markers for the team's balanced offense.

Six different players hit the board for KFC in the first period, which ended with the team ahead by on only 5, 17-12. The advantaged then doubled at halftime, 31-21, with Kwon converting three field goals. Kwon also dropped three baskets in succession in the third period to help KFC keep the driver's seat, 42-35, and then he drew enough help from his teammates to increase their lead in the payoff period.

Edmond Borja paced the Ol'Aces and was the lone double figure scorer on the team with his 10 markers. The Ol'Aces dropped to a 1-5 card.

Meanwhile, Tinian also notched a double-digit winning margin over the Chalan Kanoa Saints, 65-54, last Friday.

Tinian now has a 7-0 record and will keep its unbeaten mark in the regular season, as its scheduled final game against the CNMI Girls Nationals today has been cancelled with the latter pulling out of the tournament due to lack of players.

Saipan-based player Kobee Mendoza led Tinian's win with his 18 points, while Ignacio Borja and Karlo De Leon also finished in twin digits with 14

and 12, respectively.

Mendoza nailed 11 of his total output in the first period to lift Tinian to an early double-digit spread, 19-8. Mendoza was then held to one field goal in the second canto, but Borja stepped up, tallying 8 points, as Tinian pulled away further, 41-20. The Keith Nabors-coached team never looked back from thereon to retain its perfect record.

FRIDAY

Tinian 65 – Mendoza 18, Borja 14, De Leon 12, P. Sablan 8, Cruz 6, D. Sablan 6, Nabors 2.

Scoring by quarters: 19-8, 41-20, 49-37, 65-54.

TUESDAY

KFC 64 – Kwon 24, De Leon Guerrero 10, Francisco 8, Darag 6, Dancoe 6, Alipio 4, Borromeo 4, Ogasawara 2.

Ol'Aces 51 – Borja 10, Anderson 7, Castillo 7, Kabiriel 6, Miller 6, Peters 4, Laniyo 3, Cristobal 2.

Scoring by quarters: 17-12, 31-21, 42-35, 64-51.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

KFC's Wilfredo Francisco, left, blocks a shot from the Ol'Aces' Leowell Cristobal, while teammate John Darag provides help defense during the first quarter of their U18 game in the BANMI youth caging last Tuesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

BOOM

From Page 28

Rumble on Dec. 12.

Organizers are trying to secure the venue for Trench Tech's final event for the year.

The Alvarez-Wusstig match is one of the three title bouts in next month's competition, which has a tentative list of five undercard fights.

Wusstig will be making his second defense of the 145-lb. belt after dethroning former champion Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez in Trench Warz 15: Supremacy by split decision on Dec. 11, 2011. The Countershock MMA fighter successfully defended his featherweight title with a second-round technical knockout of Jessie Fasi two years ago.

Roman and Shane are first

cousins and are both Trench Tech fighters like Fasi.

Roman is still undefeated after three fights, two of which were recorded in the Pacific Xtreme Combat. He scored a knockout win by head kick against Jay Taijeron in the first round of their bout in last year's PXC 40 and then earned a unanimous decision win over McLane Alfred in PXC 42 early this year.

Wusstig holds a 4-7 mark but has not fought since suffering a unanimous decision loss to Nate Quiniola Thorell in PXC 36 last year. That was his second straight defeat as he also lost to Mark Striegl by submission scarf hold armlock with 1:38 left in the first round in PXC 33 in 2012.

Meanwhile, in the two other title fights, Juggernaut Fight

Club's Will "The Kill" Chope will take on Trench Tech and Rites of Passage veteran Jose "Young Blood" Ramirez of Guam in a lightweight super-fight bout, while Guam's Rocky "Rock Star" Quichocho will face Japan's Tiger "Bukake" Yatsui for the heavyweight title.

The undercard bouts will have Guam Muay Thai teammates Dino "NHB" Cruz, Eric "Gatti" Gatman and Mike Piccini facing Travis "Flyingman" Eubanks, John Tudela and Ben Flores, respectively, while Josh "Chaos" Duenas clashes with Ernie Santos.

Trench Tech founder and fight promoter Cuki Alvarez is still looking for "Shiska" Bob Alvarez's opponent in a 155-lb bout.

For more information, call Cuki Alvarez at 483-4662.

MP

From Page 28

backed MP United when he got his first in the 30th and he added one more in the 61st minute before Paire finally lit up the board midway in the second half, thanks to Ethan Dickinson's conversion.

The eventual champion, which earned its fourth straight U18 division crown and notched unbeaten records for three consecutive seasons, highlighted its perfect season with 32 goals—the most scored by any of the four teams in the group. The Norman Del Rosario-coached squad also gave up the least goals with 9 and registered 18 points in the double-round robin competition.

The perennial champion finished the season six markers ahead of Tan Holdings FC, which wrapped up its campaign in the fall with a 4-0-2 win-draw-loss record. Tan Holdings

scored 27 goals and gave up 11. Paire and Matansa FC held identical 1-0-5 marks to take the bottom two spots with the latter drilling more goals than the former, 8-5.

GIRLS U15 Shirley's FC 4, Tan Holdings 1

Shirley's FC boosted its title bid in the girls U15 division after beating Tan Holdings FC last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

Shirley's improved its record to 8-0-1 (win-draw-los), while Tan Holdings dropped to a 3-1-5 mark.

Diana Manacop powered Shirley's to its eighth win after logging two goals, while Katherine Magat and De Jana Muna added one each. Chloe Salvosa recorded the lone goal for Tan Holdings.

Matansa 4, Paire 0

Matansa also remained in con-

tention for the division crown, following its demolition of Paire last weekend.

Angelica Sally handed Matansa twin goals to give the team a 7-1-0 record. Bernadette Horey and Sunny Woe scored the two other goals for Matansa.

Paire, with the shutout loss, stayed in third place with its 4-0-5 slate.

MP United 3, Kanoa FC 0

MP United cruised to victory, too, last weekend against the winless Kanoa FC.

Gilliam Villagomez duplicated Sally and Manacop's feat with her back-to-back goals in the second half (69th and 70th minute), while Grace Choi tallied MP United's first goal in the opening frame (23rd).

Despite easing past Kanoa, MP United remained at the bottom half of the team standings as the latter is in fifth place with its 3-0-5 record.

Center placed seventh with its 1-5 slate, posting its lone win against DPS, 62-57, last Nov. 5.

The playoff round will start on Dec. 3. Organizers have yet to release the playoff format.

DCCA 95 – Pangelinan 41, Inos 23, Wesley 16, Ro. Deleon Guerrero 6, Ra. Deleon Guerrero Jr. 4, Ito 3, Aaron 2.

CUC 66 – Diaz 20, Santos 16, Iramk 6, Lieto 6, Masga 6, Mizutani 6, Seidlur 3, Poquiz 2, Camacho 1.

Scoring by quarters: 17-10, 38-24, 67-43, 95-66.

CUC

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front of its offense, DCCA built a 38-24 halftime spread, its first of several double-digit leads.

Perry Inos scattered 23 points to support Pangelinan's offensive onslaught, while Tim Wesley tallied 16 markers.

Tony Diaz paced CUC's losing cause with his 20 points, while John Santos contributed 16 markers.

It was DCCA's fourth win in six matches and it finished tied for third with Northern

2014 JP World Corp. Basketball League Finals

PHOTOS BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Shirley's Coffee Shop's Erick Dela Rosa, left, and MBI/Anchor's White Capalad get tangled up as they jockey for position in the rebound play in Game 1 of their best-of-three title series in the 2014 JP World Corp. Customer Appreciation Basketball League week at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.



Referee Sonny Ebuen, left, stays on top of the play as MBI/Anchor's Justin Zapanta looks for a teammate to pass the ball to after facing a tough defense from Shirley's Elmer Esdrelon.



Shirley's Vince Manibusan beats Art Trajano for the loose ball.



Shirley's Matt Duenas pulls up for a jumper against MBI/Anchor's Art Trajano, left, and Angelo Fernando, partly hidden.



Shirley's Joseph Aguilar blocks a driving Justin Zapanta of MBI/Anchor.



Three Shirley's defenders watch MBI/Anchor's Angelo Fernando soars for a shot.



MBI/Anchor's Ivan De Vero tries to move away from the defense of Shirley's Matt Duenas, left, and Joseph Aguilar, right, with the help of a screen from teammate Pete Lizama, third left.



Shirley's Sean Rabasto challenges the defense of MBI/Anchor's Art Trajano, left, and Pete Lizama.

Shirley's Elmer Esdrelon goes up for a reverse layup.



**NFL suspends
Peterson for
at least rest of
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**Kobe leads
struggling
Lakers past
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

MP United gets 4th straight U18 title

ROSELYN B. MONROY

MP United Football Club players pose for a group photo after their rain-soaked game against Paire in the U18 division of the 2014 NMIFA Fall Youth League last Friday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.



By ROSELYN B. MONROY
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REPORTER

MP United Football Club extended its reign in the U18 division of the NMIFA Youth League after ruling this year's fall season.



MP United finished the 2014 NMIFA Youth Fall League un-

defeated, as it completed a six-game sweep, following a 4-1 victory over Paire Football Club last Friday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Tanapon Unsaa led the easy win with a brace, while Scott Kim and Chris Park added one apiece. Joining the three on

the champion team are goalie Christopher Aninzo, Kyle Chung, Kennedy Izuka, Jahn Joyner, NamKi Kim, Bob Kim, Jason Kim, Aaron Lee, Daniel Lim, John Diego Masga, Greg Sablan, John Taisacan, David Yang, Jireh Yobech, Chan Woo Jeong, Enrico del Rosario, and Andrew Johnson.

Scott Kim put MP United on the board with a goal in the fourth, while Park also scored in the first half (23rd minute) off a Johnson assist. Unsaa made it a 3-0 advantage for the IT&E

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Pangelinan sizzles in DCCA rout of CUC

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Edgar Pangelinan sizzled from outside to lead Department of

Community and Cultural Affairs to a 95-66 rout of Commonwealth Utilities Corp. in the final elimination round game of the 2014 DYS-IT&E Inter-



Government Basketball League Monday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Pangelinan toyed with his defenders the entire game to finish with a season-high 41 points. He made all of DCCA's 7 3-pointers. He scored 22 of DCCA's 57 points in the second half, 13 of which came in the third as DCCA blew the game wide open.

DCCA led from the opening tip and ended the first quarter with a 7-point lead, 17-10. It was cruise control from thereon and with Pangelinan at the fore-

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JON PEREZ
DCCA's Edgar Pangelinan drives to the baseline against the tight defense of CHC's Omar Ajoste during an earlier game in the IT&E-DYS inter-government caging at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

'Boom' aims to snatch featherweight belt from Wusstig

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Roman "Sonic Boom" Alvarez hopes to avenge his

TRENCH TECH
stablemates and snatch the featherweight title from Rob



Roman "Sonic Boom" Alvarez chokes hold Vince "The Clinch" Masga in last Saturday's Art of War 9: Grappling, Submission and Jiu jitsu Challenge. Alvarez used the event as a warm-up for his featherweight title fight against defending champion Rob "The Real Deal" Wusstig in next month's Trench Warz 18: Rock & Rumble.

JON PEREZ